

# Shafter Court

Spring 2003

The Magazine for Alumni and Friends of Virginia Commonwealth University

## CONNECTIONS

VCU's  
DR. JOHN FENN  
*is honored with the*  
NOBEL PRIZE  
*in Chemistry*  
for 2002.

vcu



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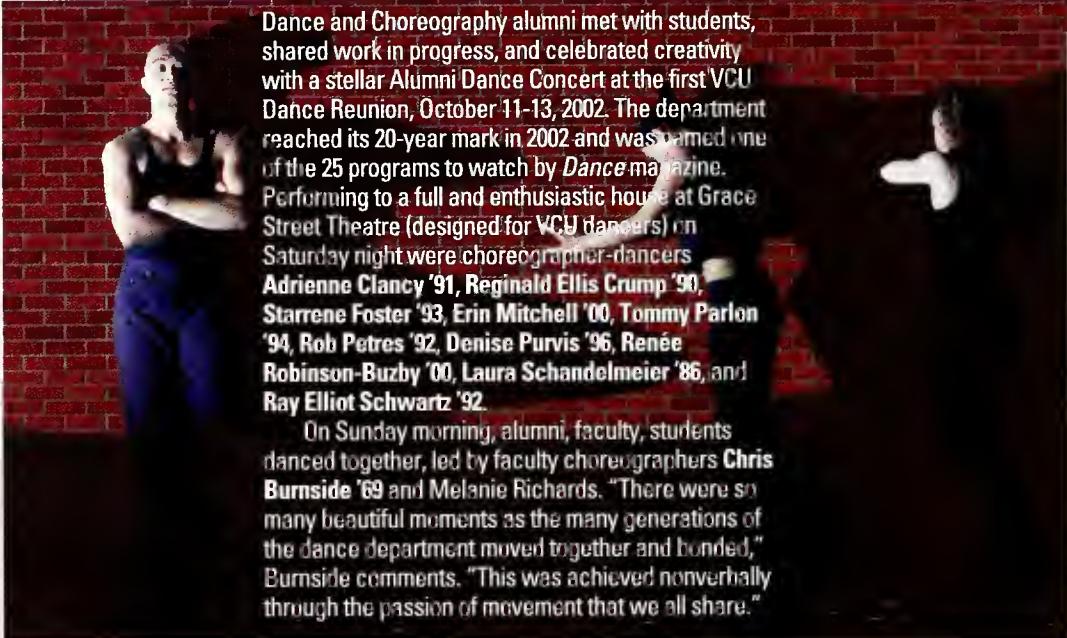
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**VCU Dance—A Moving Reunion**

Dance and Choreography alumni met with students, shared work in progress, and celebrated creativity with a stellar Alumni Dance Concert at the first VCU Dance Reunion, October 11-13, 2002. The department reached its 20-year mark in 2002 and was named one of the 25 programs to watch by *Dance* magazine. Performing to a full and enthusiastic house at Grace Street Theatre (designed for VCU dancers) on Saturday night were choreographer-dancers **Adrienne Clancy '91, Reginald Ellis Crump '90, Starrene Foster '93, Erin Mitchell '00, Tommy Parlon '94, Rob Petres '92, Denise Purvis '96, Renée Robinson-Buzby '00, Laura Schandelmeier '86, and Ray Elliot Schwartz '92.**

On Sunday morning, alumni, faculty, students danced together, led by faculty choreographers **Chris Burnside '69** and **Melanie Richards**. "There were so many beautiful moments as the many generations of the dance department moved together and bonded," Burnside comments. "This was achieved nonverbally through the passion of movement that we all share."

*Adrienne Clancy (right), alumna choreographer*



*Hold That Pose, Please. Starr Foster, Nancy Payne '98, Melanie Richards and Renée Robinson-Buzby manage a moment of stillness.*



*In Good Company.  
Adrienne Clancy,  
Ken Yamaguchi-Clark  
and Tommy Parlon*



*Faculty Line. Past and present faculty get their kicks: Kay Weinstein, Melanie Richards, Ann Anderson (first chair), Frances Wessels and Sharon Kinney (1983).*



# Shafner Court

## CONNECTIONS



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COVER: AP PHOTO BY  
HENRIK MONTGOMERY

**Stay Connected. At [www.VCU-MCVAlumni.org](http://www.VCU-MCVAlumni.org),  
VCUAA members can get low-cost internet service through [vcu.org](http://vcu.org).**

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*Shafner Court Connections* is a magazine for alumni and friends of the Academic Campus of Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond. VCU is a Carnegie One Research University with an enrollment of 25,400 students on the Academic and Medical College of Virginia Campuses. The magazine is published twice a year by VCU Alumni Activities.

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The article about the Bocock House, the Richmond Symphony's Designer House, in the fall issue had just the right tone and was filled with good stories. I am pleased to have played a small part in it. Thanks for a great job that was good for VCU and good for our project.

Deanna Brinkman  
Chair of Publicity for Richmond Symphony Designer House

I was fascinated by your article in the most recent VCU magazine about Mrs. Elizabeth Bocock, and thought you'd enjoy these memories, which your article triggered.

I had thought I was the oldest student at VCU when I entered as a freshman at the age of 57 in 1965, but I was mistaken. Three years later, Mrs. Bocock was in one of my favorite English classes, History of the English Language, taught by Dr. Elizabeth Duke. I still chuckle when I think of Mrs. B. in that class, and remember how all the young students enjoyed her remarks.

At the time, I was on the staff of the student newspaper, assigned to interview Mrs. Bocock. Well before noon one day, I asked her if I could write about her. She chuckled, and invited me to lunch. Her apartment in 901 West Franklin Street was almost hidden by a brick wall and faced a small but inviting garden.

During a small but tasty lunch served by a uniformed maid, we chatted

amiably. Then I looked at my watch and said, "Mrs. Bocock, I need to go to my next class, so do you mind if we start the interview now?"

With a twinkle in her eyes, she answered, "Mrs. Wolfe, I just wanted to talk to you, and I've enjoyed it; but I NEVER give interviews!"

At graduation, Mrs. Bocock was 64, I think, and I was 61. After graduation I worked in the Evening College, next door to the Bocock House. She would stop at my desk to let me know whenever she planned to take evening classes.

One afternoon as I was leaving, an apparition came into view—a woman in an elegant green taffeta dress, pushing a bicycle. When I asked where she was headed in such lovely attire, she replied with a grin, "You see, my dear, I had to get in my exercise for today, and I'm going to a cocktail party—and don't worry about my dress."

After that, I saw her a few more times. I've always considered her one of the most interesting senior citizens I've ever met, and I'll never forget that she and I were the oldest graduates of the Class of 1969.

Dinah Wolfe '69BA/H&S  
Annapolis, Maryland

*Ed. Mrs. Bocock is certainly an honorary alumna of VCU, but she did not hold a VCU degree.*

I wanted to let you know that I received the copies of Shafer Court Connections magazine this morning. I again want to express my appreciation for you and your staff's hard work and time in relation to the story of Bass and the USS H.A. BASS. Thank you, and the writer, Donna Gregory, for the very fine article.

Roy Baugher III  
History Museum & Historical Society of Western Virginia  
Roanoke, Virginia

Thanks so much for the piece featuring the School of Engineering in *Shafer Court Connections*, Fall 2002. It was great! We'd like to use it as part of our response to inquiries and applicants.

Thanks!

Nancy Neville  
Assistant Dean  
VCU School of Engineering

### Nearly Nobel

Very early one October morning, graphic designer **Jocelyn Senn '83BS/MC** answered the phone. "John Senn has won the Nobel Prize for Chemistry," said a woman with a thick accent. Senn's grandfather John Senn had been dead for years, so she told the caller she must have a wrong number. But she wondered.

It soon became clear when she heard the news that VCU professor of chemistry Dr. John Fenn had won the Nobel Prize. The caller had been a reporter trying to get an interview with the new Nobel Laureate.

Still, Senn felt touched by greatness just by receiving the call. "I went to VCU," she told the *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, "so I was very proud."



Rambassador with students Ronak Sanipat and Kayce Johnson.

### Tailgate Party

Students and alumni warmed up in heated tents at the Winter Tailgate Party that closed VCU's Homecoming Week on Saturday, February 8. The VCU Pep Band led the parade of Rams fans down Harrison Street to the Siegel Center for the game. We won, for the sixth time straight, 78-62, with Emanuel Mathis sinking a career high 26 points. Under Coach Jeff Capel, VCU is playing exciting basketball. In late February, their record was 17-7.



ALLEN JONES '82BFA '92MFA / VCU CREATIVE SERVICES

### Winter Commencement

Alumni served an early breakfast to VCU graduates and their families before Commencement on December 14, 2002. VCU awarded 1,559 undergraduate, graduate and professional degrees to August-December graduates.

After feeding the grads, alumni volunteers share breakfast and a sigh of relief.

**Motorola a Solid Presence at VCU**

In 1995, Motorola Inc. announced plans to buy land in Goochland County and build a computer-chip factory that would employ 5,000 people. At the same time, Motorola and Siemens built the White Oak plant in Henrico County to manufacture RAM chips. When Motorola later sold its interest to Siemens, the name became Infineon Technologies, now employing 1,750.

But after a four-year downturn in the semiconductor market, Motorola announced in September that it is selling its land. "It has nothing to do with the region or people," said Motorola's Sean Hunkler. "It has everything to do with the market."

The company continues to be a major force behind VCU's School of Engineering. Motorola's \$6.5 million equipment gift trust furnished VCU's "clean room" for making semiconductor chips.

Motorola's summer internships for VCU students often lead to jobs. In this year's tight economy, Motorola hired only eight new graduates in the whole country for its Semiconductor Products Sector; three of them are from VCU's School of Engineering. "We know that VCU students will produce for the company," said Motorola's Barry Dill.

**The Sticking Point**

In December, VCU Health Systems and Atlanta's Grady Memorial Hospital rejected President Bush's call to vaccinate front-line medical workers against smallpox. Since then a growing number of hospitals are questioning the risks. Hospital officials argue that the risk of dangerous side effects (life-threatening illness and some deaths in 15 to 42 people per million vaccinated) and the possibility that the virus could be transmitted to patients outweighed the threat of biological terrorism.

The last case of smallpox in the world was in 1979. Furthermore, the vaccination is effective when given four days after exposure. VCU's Dr. Richard Wenzel, internationally recognized expert on infectious diseases and bio-terrorism and chair of internal medicine, would begin vaccinating workers under either of two conditions—"a case of smallpox anywhere in the world, no matter how remote, or a credible imminent danger of attack."

**In the Groove**

Soprano sax player Steve Lacey headlined a star-studded night October 28 at a gala free concert to celebrate real estate magnate

W.E. Singleton's gift of \$2 million to the Jazz Studies Program and to name the performing arts center in his honor. It was his party, and Singleton's handpicked performers included singer René Marie, The Jimmy Black Trio featuring Steve Bassett, and violinist Joe Kennedy Jr. VCU's Jazz Faculty Quartet and student Jazz Orchestra 1 led by Jazz Program director Antonio Garcia rounded out the expansive evening. "Students will be feeling the electricity for some time," Garcia told *Style Weekly*.

In October, the VCU Jazz Program released a CD, *It Could Happen to You*. Veteran New York trumpeter Brian Lynch sits in on two songs. Stay in the groove at [www.vcujazz.org](http://www.vcujazz.org).

**Spare Parts**

Procedures like heart bypasses have become routinely successful; but patients don't always have the spare veins or parts for this and other procedures. "What's really needed," says Dr. Gary Bowlin of VCU's biomedical engineering faculty, "is a blood vessel you can pull off the shelf."

Bowlin and VCU faculty scientists Dr. Gary Wnek, from chemical engineering, and Dr. David Simpson from anatomy plan to fill the need. Their company, NanoMatrix, has a \$2 million contract from the Advanced Technology Program of the National Institute of Standards and Technology to make a living vascular implant.

Using a process called electrospinning, they are making tubular scaffolds on which natural human blood vessels can be grown using collagen and elastin, structural components of native blood vessels. The tubes are as small as one millimeter in diameter.

Smooth muscle cells are "seeded" onto the scaffold. Because rejection is not a problem with the natural collagen tube, cells multiply; and in weeks the engineered blood vessel is ready to implant. Ultimately, the body replaces the biodegradable collagen and elastin scaffold.

Applications abound. ER surgeons could make urgent repairs faster with pre-made blood vessels. In pediatric surgery, these implanted blood vessels may possibly grow with the patient; or they can replace vessels of diabetic patients damaged by vascular disease. The same technology might eventually be used to regenerate or replace skin, bone, nerves, muscles and even repair spinal cord injuries, says Wnek. "Anything you want to repair can start from a scaffold."

Practical applications could be commercially available within three years.

**Honor System Restructured**

VCU's honor system was restructured, from fall, 2002. Oversight for all graduate and professional education on both campuses is now combined. The Academic Campus Honor Council, now the Undergraduate Student Honor Council, has a higher student representation.

"This revision moves the University closer to a single system, more consistent standards, and judgment by peers," explains Dr. Robert Clifton, dean of Student Affairs for the MCV Campus and VCU Honor System advisor. "The Graduate and Professional Student Council will be administered completely by students from both campuses. Four of the seven members of the undergraduate council will be appointed by the provost from a list submitted by the Academic Campus Student Government Association."

**Children's Oncology Clinic**

Each month 400 children receive treatment for cancer and serious blood-related illnesses at the VCU Health Systems Children's Medical Center. Last year, the Association for the Support of Children with Cancer (ASK) donated \$390,000 to design and build a new pediatric hematology/oncology clinic. The new facility is "a friendly, comfortable and well-equipped place to provide care for this special group of children," said Dr. E. Clifton Russell, chair of pediatric hematology/oncology at the Center. "We are deeply indebted to ASK." This is the only outpatient center in central Virginia dedicated to treating children with cancer and blood-related diseases.

ASK supports research on childhood cancer at VCU and contributes \$180,000 yearly to fund two nurse practitioners, a child life therapist, art therapist and chaplain-counselor for the clinic.



## Safer Cigarettes?

Studies at VCU's Clinical Behavioral Pharmacology Laboratory suggest that new cigarettes developed to reduce health risks may offer few benefits and could introduce new hazards.

In one study, researchers found that Advance, which is cured with new technology that reduces levels of carcinogenic nitrosamines, did produce 11 percent less carbon monoxide, linked to heart disease and other smoking-related diseases. However, Advance also delivered 25 percent more nicotine into the bloodstream than conventional cigarettes—increasing the risk of addiction.

Another study evaluated Accord and Eclipse—cigarette-like devices that heat, rather than burn, tobacco. Accord delivered less nicotine, and smokers' heart rates and carbon monoxide levels were lower than with traditional cigarettes. But it suppressed withdrawal symptoms less effectively, so smokers may use it more than regular cigarettes or continue to use regular cigarettes to relieve cravings or feelings of restlessness, impatience or depression. Eclipse increased heart rates and suppressed withdrawal about the same as conventional cigarettes, but delivered one third more carbon monoxide. Other research suggests that Eclipse may contain harmful glass fibers not found in regular cigarettes.

Currently, there's little objective research other than VCU's (funded by the National Institute on Drug Abuse) to evaluate industry claims that new tobacco products are safer. The VCU laboratory is studying pharmacological and psychological factors that can help reduce people's desire to smoke. Smoking is blamed for more than 400,000 deaths a year in the U.S.

## Hair Here!

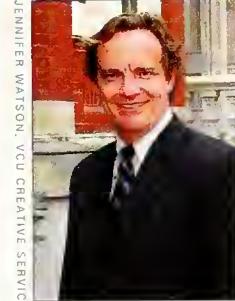
Hair opened in 1968, an anti-Vietnam musical that raised questions about the war, the draft, racism, drugs, and the whereabouts of a young man named Frank Mills.

"The clothes are coming back, the music never left, and the feeling will have you smiling as

you leave the theatre," says guest director Barry Bell. And possibly the war is coming back. Blessedly, the music stayed with us. April 10-13, 16-19 (804) 828-6026 For other arts schedules, see [www.vcu.edu/artweb](http://www.vcu.edu/artweb)

**VCU French Film Festival**  
March 28-30  
[www.frenchfilm.vcu.edu](http://www.frenchfilm.vcu.edu)

**James River Film Festival**  
March 31-April 6  
[www.rmicweb.org](http://www.rmicweb.org)



Dr. Donelson Forsyth



Dr. Robert Cohen



Dr. James Levenson



Dr. Hadis Morkoç



"you leave the theatre," says guest director Barry Bell. And possibly the war is coming back. Blessedly, the music stayed with us. April 10-13, 16-19 (804) 828-6026 For other arts schedules, see [www.vcu.edu/artweb](http://www.vcu.edu/artweb)

## Goal!!

VCU Rams Men's Soccer Team beat William & Mary to become 2002 Colonial Athletic Association champions. VCU led the CAA with 11 shutouts and 0.95 goals against average. In the tough final game, the unexpected hero was Milorad Djordjevic, a senior defender who made the game-winning goal. "It was a great feeling," said Djordjevic, "especially knowing the fact that I have been playing here for three years, and prior to this game I've played sixty games without scoring."

"This was one of our goals at the beginning of the year," said Head Coach Tim O'Sullivan, Virginia Division I Men's Soccer State Coach for 2002, and CAA Coach of the Year. "In the finals last year, we lost to James Madison." This year, senior midfielder Carlos Garay and senior defender Milorad Djordjevic both earned All-Region and All-Academic honors. Three players earned all-academic honors, four had All-Region honors, five had Virginia Sports Information Directors honors, six All-CAA honors; VCU had one Academic All-American and one CAA defensive player of the year.

## Cum Laude

On September 5, 2002 at VCU's annual convocation, the University recognized its most distinguished faculty.

Psychology professor **Dr. Donelson Forsyth** received the University Award of Excellence. A recognized leader in curriculum development, mentoring, and learning research, Forsyth currently ranks among the top 50 researchers in the field of psychology. In his 24 years on the faculty, Forsyth has taught thousands of undergraduate and graduate students, winning numerous awards. He's written more than 100 books, chapters and articles. His textbook, *Group Dynamics*, is definitive for the field. Forsyth thanked the many "groups" in his life who have helped him achieve success—students, faculty and his family.

The Distinguished Service Award went to **Dr. Robert Cohen**, professor of psychiatry and director of the Virginia Treatment Center for Children (VTCC). Cohen is widely recognized for his teaching and research, especially in youth violence prevention, child and family studies, and emotional and behavioral disorders. He developed a Richmond area partnership through the VTCC that brings together providers, children and their families, and community

agencies. "Balancing quality services with community service—that's the challenge," says Cohen. "You've got to make sure you stay connected."

**Dr. James Levenson**, professor of psychiatry, medicine and surgery was honored with the Distinguished Teaching Award. In 20 years at VCU, Levenson has taught medical students, residents and fellows. Both students and colleagues see him as particularly skilled at communicating complex psychiatric information to non-psychiatric physicians and patients. "I believe teaching is doing," says Levenson. "It's vastly more interesting to learn medicine from patients than books."

**Dr. Hadis Morkoç**, professor of electrical engineering and the Virginia Microelectronics Consortium, received the Distinguished Scholarship Award. Morkoç is considered one of the top 20 scientists in the world. His research is supported by the National Science Foundation, the National Research Council, the Department of Energy, the International Science Foundation, the National Academy of Sciences, as well as foreign governments and funding agencies. Morkoç holds a U.S. patent for the device crucial to reducing the home satellite receiver from 14 feet in diameter to 14 inches. The device is used in cell phones, automotive collision avoidance systems, automatic toll systems and base-to-satellite communications applications.

As CAA champions, the Rams advanced automatically to the NCAA tournament, seeded eighth out of 48 teams. "The exciting thing about this is that the country recognizes the quality of team you are," O'Sullivan told the team. VCU persevered to the second round. After regulation play and two overtimes ended in a scoreless tie, Furman University edged VCU, 4-2, in a penalty kick shootout.



Milorad Djordjevic



Carlos Garay



## Guggenheim Focus

Elizabeth King, a member of VCU's sculpture faculty since 1985, was named one of 184 Guggenheim Fellows for 2002. VCU matched the Guggenheim Foundation grant, designed to give recipients financial freedom to focus on their work for a year. The Fellowship recognizes King's work in video installation.

As an artist, her broad objective is to bring the physical object and its filmed animation together in a shared environment, "to challenge the boundary between actual and virtual space." She will exhibit new pieces in early 2004 at Kent Gallery in New York.

King's work is in the permanent collections of the Hirshhorn Museum, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, the Museum of Fine Arts in Houston, and the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City. For a sample of her work on video, see the online arts journal, *Blackbird*, a collaboration of VCU and the *New Virginia Review*: [www.blackbird.vcu.edu](http://www.blackbird.vcu.edu). King's book, *Attention's Loop (A Sculptor's Reverie on the Coexistence of Substance and Spirit)*, was published in 1999 by Harry N. Abrams, Inc.

## Do you know where your metadata are?

The 9th International Working Conference on Reverse Engineering (WCRe) met at VCU in October. Dr. Peter Aiken '82BS '85MS/B, VCU associate professor of information systems and conference chair, reports 70 representatives came from 14 countries for the major research conference in this field.

For most existing systems, Aiken explains, there is no documentation or "blueprint" to guide the work—so companies, agencies and schools, don't understand their systems well enough to modify them to support their goals. When organizations store data in poorly defined structures, they can't make the systems produce information they know is there so they can use it. "Organizations spend 20% of their IT budgets on these kinds of data problems," Aiken says.

"Reverse" engineering starts with the finished product and backtracks to find underlying structures, architectures, and other important information. At this working conference, reverse engineers pool their findings, in order to develop blueprints and modify systems to function effectively. "Building this understanding can save time, money, and even lives," Aiken says. For example during Desert Storm, "two of the four Services 'lost' troops deployed to the Gulf because their systems could not process overseas location codes."

Recent conferences have attracted great interest from government agencies involved in

anti-terrorist work, Aiken says. "Research shared at WCRe may help integrate and improve agency systems to make Americans safer. To create the new Homeland Security Agency, the government "will have to link literally thousands of databases." If it works, vital data will no longer slip through the technological cracks.

There is potential for abuse of course; reverse technology could be used for hacking or for government surveillance of citizens as well as against criminals or terrorists. But Aiken points out that organizations use reverse engineering to create technological security against hacking.

He adds, "When I was with the Department of Defense, we set several very important legal precedents to insure that organizational access to their own property rights was protected. And most software licensing agreements prohibit the user from reverse engineering the software."

## Firebrand

Advertising firebrand Rick Boyko is leaving his job as co-president and chief creative officer of Ogilvy & Mather Worldwide, Inc. Starting July 1, He'll be firing up students at VCU's acclaimed graduate Adcenter program as its managing director. "I do challenge people to challenge themselves," Boyko told AdWeek. "I don't let up."

"Rick Boyko is at the top of his game now as one of the world's leading advertising creative directors, heading one of the industry's most renowned and accomplished creative departments," says Mike Hughes, president and creative director of the Martin Agency in Richmond and chair of the Adcenter Board.

Boyko has created ads for major brands including Nike, United Airlines, Pizza Hut, American Express and Duracell. "Every serious professional in the business already studies Rick's work," says Hughes, "For a relatively small group of graduate students to have daily access to such an accomplished professional is probably unprecedented in advertising education."

Boyko will take over from Judy VanSlyke Turk, director of VCU's School of Mass Communications, who has filled the gap since previous director Patty Alvey left VCU's Adcenter July 1, 2002.

## InSight On Air

VCU student anchors, reporters, producers and production technicians are producing a new, monthly public affairs program broadcast on WCVW Richmond PBS, Channel 57. *VCU InSight* is a half hour featuring the latest University events and research, and profiles of VCU students, faculty and alumni.

The show gives students "invaluable experience" while exposing Central Virginia "to some of the terrific things going on at the University," says Judy VanSlyke Turk, director of the School of Mass Communications. Using all new digital cameras, the student team is working from the School's television studio. WCVW provides technical guidance and access to station resources.

*VCU InSight* airs the third Monday of every month at 7:30 pm, repeating the following Sunday. The show's website—[www.vcuinsight.org](http://www.vcuinsight.org)—gives budding print journalists a crack at multi-media reporting.



ALLEN JONES '82BFA '92MFA VCU CREATIVE SERVICES

## P.S. I Love You

For their study, "PS: I Love You: Long Distance Care-Giving," VCU social work faculty members Dr. Marcia Harrigan and Dr. Beverly Koerin analyzed data from a 1997 survey of family caregivers of older adults by the National Alliance for Caregiving and the American Association of Retired Persons. The original study included 109 long distance caregivers at least two hours away from the care receiver.

The majority were women (56%), married (65%), middle-aged, and employed (71%). Typically they were caring for a parent around 78 years old, with a chronic illness; 21% had Alzheimer's Disease. Caregiving was usually shared (89%), a situation that can lead to misunderstandings between local and long distance caregivers. Yet, Harrigan says, "More than two-thirds of caregivers in our study reported no family conflict. This suggests that we need further research into the views of both local and distant caregivers."

Harrigan and Koerin found that the emotional toll of being separated from an ailing parent outweighs the financial difficulty of making visits home. Also, increasingly, long distance caregivers are men.

Sixty-one percent of employed caregivers had at least one negative job impact, such as taking a leave, arriving late, or changing work status to meet the recipient's needs. Over half of them had given up leisure activities and vacations; one-third had less time with other family members. Rewards included a sense of family loyalty and "giving back" to the care recipient.

Harrigan adds, "We also know that many people provide unacknowledged long distance care and may not even define themselves as 'caregivers.' Consequently, they may not find the supports that they need."

They've presented their work at national and international conferences, and their article appears in the *Journal of Gerontological Social Work* this spring.

# Internal Medicine: VCU Health System Restructures

Retchin Directs VCU Health System

In June, Dr. Hermes Kontos will step down as director of the VCU Health System. Dr. Sheldon Retchin will take his place as CEO of the health system and VCU vice president for health sciences, effective July 1, 2003.

Dr. Kontos is a professor of internal medicine nationally recognized for his research in cerebrovascular physiology. Since his arrival here 40 years ago, Kontos has served the University ably and whole-heartedly. He has been chair of cardiology and acting chair of pathology and internal medicine. He was dean of the VCU School of Medicine and vice president for health sciences. He became CEO of the VCU Health System Authority in 2000, where he led strategic planning and legislative efforts that created the VCU Health System and then implemented a new, unified governance and management structure, unique among most academic medical centers.

Dr. Retchin is a national expert in health policy and health care delivery who has been at VCU for 20 years. He has served as VCUHS senior executive vice president and COO since 2000. As president of MCV Physicians, he reorganized that group to bridge hospital and physician practice operations.

"I'm delighted with the opportunity to lead the VCU Health System and the medical campus of Virginia Commonwealth University," he says. "I look forward to many years of continued growth in research, educational innovations and clinical excellence."

## Wenzel Leads MCV Physicians

The VCU Health System Board appointed Dr. Richard Wenzel as president of MCV Physicians, the 600 physician practice that includes School of Medicine faculty and medical staff for VCU Health Systems. Wenzel will help direct an aggressive effort to make operational and fiscal improvements throughout the VCU Health System.

Chair of internal medicine at VCU since 1995, Wenzel is a renowned authority on infectious diseases and is the first editor-at-large of the *New England Journal of Medicine*. At VCU, Wenzel developed the first division of quality health care in academic medicine and formed a broader leadership structure for the department of internal medicine. With department and division leaders, Wenzel will reorganize VCU Health Systems to better support clinical care, research and education.

His work continues restructuring begun by his predecessor, Dr. Sheldon Retchin. During Retchin's nine years as president, MCV Physicians consolidated nearly two dozen independent practice plans to a single practice group with central billing, collections, insurance contracting and administration.



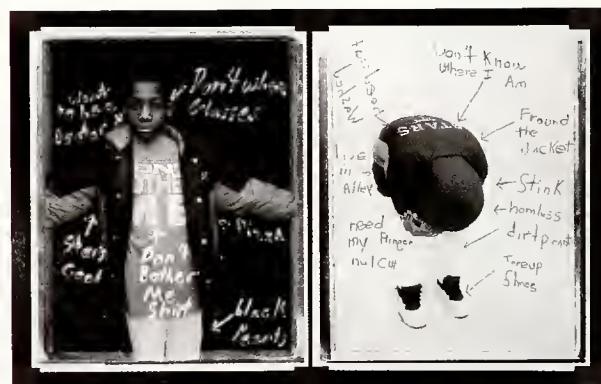
DEAN HOFFMEYER, RICHMOND TIMES-DISPATCH

## And the World Turns... to Shafer Court

**to Shuler Cowen**  
The CBS soap opera *As the World Turns* went on the road this fall, filming scenes at VCU and nine other college campuses. The road trip was part of its "Catch Us If You Can" tour, an effort to boost the 47-year-old show's ratings with younger viewers.

The tour was also a great opportunity for fledgling actors. "Part of the reason we went on tour was to see talent that didn't come from Los Angeles or New York," said director Christopher Goutman. "We wanted to escape our ivory soap tower."

VCU students Sean Hemeon (in photo, above, with star Peyton List, "Lucy Montgomery"), Theo Ellis, and T.J. Simmons competed with over 350 other hopefuls in a Richmond casting call to win speaking roles on the show. "Of course, I'm hopeful for connections," said Hemeon, a sophomore theatre major. "It's all just really exciting." VCU hit the *World* on Tuesday, November 19.



A1 EXA WEICH FEB1 WND. RICHMOND TIMES-DISPATCH

## Как Побить Рекорд?

Using data amassed during years of Olympic-training research in the former Soviet Union, Richmond entrepreneur Sergei Beliaev '01MBA has created Super Sports Systems LLC. The system aims to "optimize the ability of each individual body to achieve its best performance," Beliaev told the *Richmond Times-Dispatch*.

A former member of the all-Russia junior cycling team, Beliaev came to the U.S. in 1990 as a nine-month visiting professor at VCU, focusing on international sports administration. He stayed, earned a VCU MBA, and has started a business in the "commercialization of Russian sports knowledge to the world."

Athletes enter personal information (age, gender, height, weight, heart rate, personal bests) and performance goals. Using algorithms and Soviet research, the system produces training regimens tailored to reach the athlete's goals within a time frame. In the photo, he's leaning on VCU's System 3 Biodesix machine, which tests the functional capacity of limbs, at the Sports Medicine Department. [www.supersportsystems.com](http://www.supersportsystems.com)

### *\*How to Beat the Record*



Community," in November, part of "Literature, Crisis and Community," series sponsored by the English Department and the Honors Program, and funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

*Black Self/White Self, Ewald and Antonio  
Gunter, Durham, NC, 1995; Nadine Holding  
Her Daughter, Ewald, Saudi Arabia, 1997.*

# Not Fatal

## Saving the Victim

BY LISA ANTONELLI BACON

It was around 9 p.m. on a Saturday night in October when an ambulance crew at the scene of a shooting outside an Ashland, Virginia restaurant radioed VCU Health System's MCV Hospitals in downtown Richmond. As an EMT described the victim's status, the triage nurse rated this a "delta" emergency, the most serious. A patient with the direst injuries was about to roll through the Emergency Room doors. MCVH is a Level 1, the highest level trauma center, ready for the worst emergencies.

In seconds, phones lit up, pagers and cell phones beeped and buzzed. Critical care nurse Nancy Martin assembled the trauma team. A surgical team materialized as hospital personnel whisked the victim up several floors to a waiting operating room.

This was not only a critical trauma case. There was more. Police immediately suspected that this shooting was related to nine others (seven fatal) by "the sniper" who had been terrorizing the I-95 corridor for almost three weeks. Although the sniper had not yet ventured so far south, the modus operandi was unmistakable: one clear, crisp rifle crack from a wooded hiding place. People all over the world had been following these shootings, in pity, in fear and in hope that he would soon be stopped.

When VCU's Director of University News Services Pam Lepley arrived at 9:30 p.m., trucks from the international press, led by CNN and MSNBC, had already pulled up. Correspondents from all the local and most national media outlets were on site to get the news as it happened.

Fortunately for the victim, Dr. Rao Ivatury, director of trauma,

critical care and emergency surgery at MCVH, was there. Ivatury is an expert on penetrating trauma injury, a piercing of the body by an outside agent: bullet, knife or any foreign object.

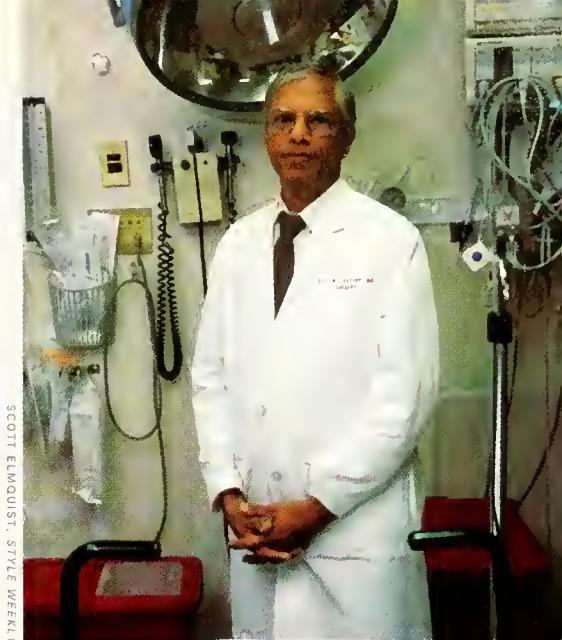
When surgeons opened the victim's stomach, they saw extensive damage. A .223-caliber bullet traveling about 2,000 miles per hour shattered on impact, sending bullet fragments shearing through the man's intestines and stomach, blowing apart his pancreas and nicking a kidney.

Ivatury knew that step one in such a critical situation is to stabilize the patient. Working quickly to stanch the blood, Ivatury removed the spleen, part of the stomach and part of the pancreas. Then he stopped. He would repair the rest of the damage the next day, after the patient's body had time to re-stabilize from the initial trauma and surgery. That decision was crucial to saving the man's life.

Although he's quick to share the credit, colleagues say that Ivatury pioneered the "timeout" concept of stabilize first, repair later—the procedure used in hospitals and taught in medical schools and conferences around the world. Before, penetrating trauma wounds were often fatal. If a patient survived the initial injury, he was guaranteed many hours of immediate surgery—necessary to saving the life, but often leaving the patient too depleted to fight the battle to survive.

"When someone is bleeding inside, they need immediate surgery to stop the bleeding," says Ivatury. "Once the bleeding is stopped, you can start stabilizing them in other ways."

In the second surgery 16 hours later, surgeons removed the bullet fragment. As one ER nurse observed, "[The victim's] body was a crime scene." Emergency Room nurses and physicians at MCVH are trained by homicide detectives to retrieve ballistics evidence, helping to save more lives. "They



Dr. Rao Ivatury

know how to handle a bullet," said Page Verlander, director of emergency nursing. Before forensics specialists began to educate ER teams treating victims, a physician, focused on treating the patient, might remove a bullet and throw it away.

Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms agents sped the evidence to a national ballistics lab in Rockville, Maryland. Minute scratches made when a bullet travels down a gun barrel can link it to the gun that fired it—even on a fragment as small as two square millimeters, the Washington Post reported. Tests did link this victim to the other shootings on the East Coast. Finally, two snipers were captured in October, apparently responsible for the East Coast deaths as well as more murders in other parts of the country.

From the first, Ivatury was optimistic about his patient's chances. "Since he is a very healthy man, and still young, the chances are fair to good," he had told the international press. After three more surgeries for repairs, the victim left the hospital November 20, 2002, his recovery on track.

*Lisa Antonelli Bacon has written for the New York Times, Interior Design and Richmond's Style Weekly.*

# LUCKY FELLOW

DR. JOHN FENN  
*Nobel Laureate in Chemistry, 2002*

BY JORIEL FOLTZ

"There's an awful lot of luck in this," insisted VCU's Dr. John Fenn on the day he heard that he had won the Nobel Prize in Chemistry. Fenn, 85, is a VCU research professor in the Department of Chemistry, an affiliate professor in the Chemical Engineering Program, and one of three recipients of the prize.

"In fact, there's a lot of luck in science," he continued, speaking at a news conference at VCU's Translational Center for Life Sciences. "To succeed as a theorist, you have to be good. To succeed as an experimentalist, you only have to be lucky. As an experimentalist, you can go through life kicking over a lot of stones, and, if you're lucky, you'll find something."

Fenn's description of the work that won the prize is typically whimsical and direct. "I made 'elephants' fly." Fenn is being honored for his contribution in mass spectrometry. He devised a breakthrough technique for analyzing large molecules, such as can be found in human cells. Charged droplets containing large molecules are produced. The droplets shrink as the water evaporates, leaving freely hovering molecular ions (the largest ions, the "elephants," can be DNA, RNA and others). The weights of these ions can be determined by setting them in motion and measuring their time of flight over a known distance.

Fenn described his Electrospray Ionization (ESI) technique in 1988 and published a seminal paper the next year in *Science*. It's used in labo-



John B. Fenn, left, receives the Nobel Prize in Chemistry from King Carl Gustaf of Sweden, right, during a ceremony at the Concert Hall in Stockholm, Sweden, Monday December 10, 2002. Fenn shares the prize with Koichi Tanaka, Japan and Kurt Wüthrich, Switzerland. (AP photo/Henrik Montgomery)

ratories around the world to quickly reveal the contents of a sample. The technique has increased the pace of drug development, could lead to quicker cancer diagnosis, and is being applied in the new field of proteomics, in which scientists attempt to map the interactions of tens of thousands of different protein cells in the human body.

"John Fenn's contributions to the science of analyzing proteins move us one step closer to discovery of important medicines that will help thousands of people one day," said VCU's President, Dr. Eugene Trani. "We're proud to have him on the research faculty at VCU."

After earning his Ph.D. at Yale University in 1940, Fenn worked in industry at Monsanto Co. and other companies. From 1945 to 1952 he worked on jet engines here in Richmond. In 1959, he became director of the U.S. Navy's Project SQUID, researching jet propulsion at Princeton University, where he was professor of aerospace and mechanical sciences. In 1967 Professor Fenn went to Yale and spent more than 20 years teaching and doing research in applied science and chemistry and chemical engineering. VCU Chemistry Chair Dr. Fred Hawkridge explains that all Fenn's diverse experiences have been "a progression of studies, all involving gas phase chemistry."

Fenn has been a visiting professor at Trento University in Italy, the University of Tokyo, the Indian Institute of Science at Bangalore and the Chinese Academy of Science in Beijing. Since 1949, he has published more than 100 papers and chapters in textbooks, almost all of them reflecting what he called in his Nobel acceptance speech "my long, and still ardent, affair with molecular beam technology."

If Fenn has been lucky, so has VCU. The future Laureate was in the midst of his Nobel-winning research when he hit Yale's mandatory retirement at 70. Yale appointed him emeritus professor with an office, but no lab space. After his wife of 53

years died in an automobile accident, Fenn started looking for lab space elsewhere.

At a meeting in California, Fenn ran into Dr. Vicky Wysocki—then on VCU's chemistry faculty—and asked if VCU might have lab space for him. He still had many friends in Richmond; he had even given a seminar at VCU during his Yale years. On its part, the Department jumped at the chance to bring him to campus, and Fenn moved back to Richmond in 1994.

In his current research at VCU, Fenn works with two graduate students to better understand Electrospray Ionization. "Although ESI is now in daily use all over the world," he explains on his website, "its component processes and mechanisms, especially the dispersion of the sample liquid into charged droplets and the formation of gas phase ions from those droplets, are poorly understood."

His lab also performs ultra trace analysis of environmental contaminants and plans to develop a portable instrument to detect biological pollutants in the air. They are also looking at the affinities of proteins for water and the ways that peptides bind together. The team has developed a method to quantify a protein's affinity for water, an advance with great potential for pharmaceuticals. Peptides, segments

of proteins, are often active ingredients in medications. To be effective in the human body, the peptides must dissolve in water.

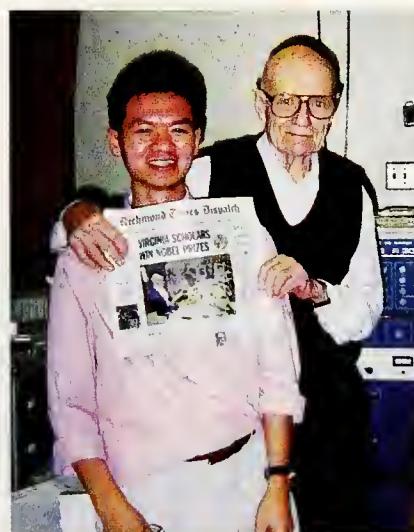
Fenn considers VCU's Chemistry Department "very collegial," a description anyone would apply to him as well. He's "an incredible inspiration," to students and to faculty, says Hawkridge. "Even with his impressive academic credentials, and now a Nobel Prize, he talks with everyone—students, staff, faculty—with never a hint of condescension." At departmental seminars, "you can bet he will be active in asking questions, never to embarrass, but rather to learn."

Fenn enjoys his graduate students. Too often, he says, teaching "goes from the notebook of the teacher to the notebook of the student without going through the heads of either one of them." In the laboratory, he and his students learn from each other. "They argue with me and that's a good thing. That means they're thinking. I'm not always right—just most of the time," he smiles. He'd like to give his students a sense of scientific curiosity, a willingness to try new things, and the confidence not to be easily discouraged. "Research is in many ways an end in itself."

Graduate student Steve Nguyen has told friends and family ever since he started working with Fenn that the Nobel Prize was inevitable. "Dr. Fenn is a great research advisor," says Nguyen. "He emphasizes that we should think in small steps. He also emphasizes the importance of writing; because no matter how big your discoveries are, you have to be able to write well to transmit the information to other people."

Nguyen says his mentor "has taught me to observe and think more critically." The two of them were driving home together once when a car stopped suddenly in front of them. The incident brought out Fenn the scientist-environmentalist, who commented on the detrimental effects of the tiny rubber particulates released into the air.

(Continued on page 26)



Graduate student Steve Nguyen spreads the news about his mentor, John Fenn.

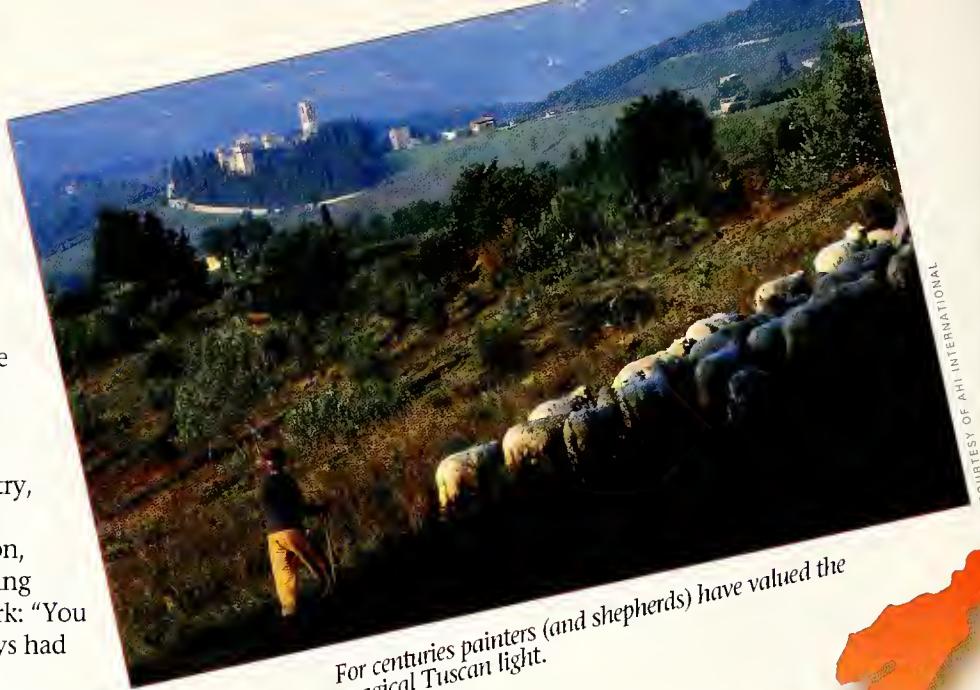
# T

he Lufthansa Airbus gently set down on the runway in Bologna, Italy on October 1. In the terminal we met our tour director, Chiara Bracolonia. On the motor coach ride from Bologna the rolling hills and mountains of Tuscany reminded me of Virginia's Roanoke Valley graced with olive groves and vineyards.

Chiara, a native Tuscan with 15 years experience in the travel industry, expertly noted each scenic vista, reviewed the geography of the region, and outlined our week ahead—ending each explanation with her trademark: "You have a question for me?" (She always had the answer.)

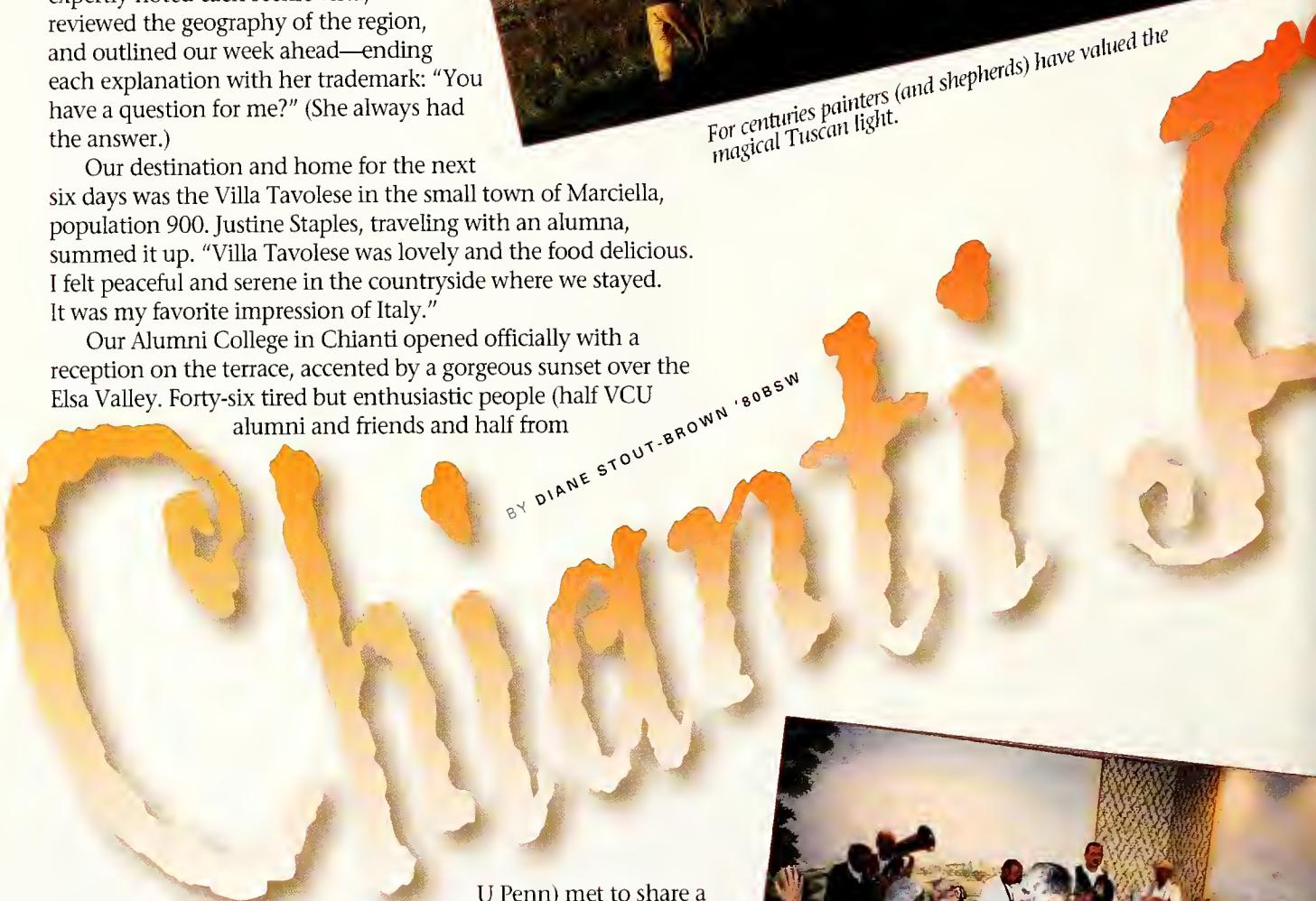
Our destination and home for the next six days was the Villa Tavolese in the small town of Marciella, population 900. Justine Staples, traveling with an alumna, summed it up. "Villa Tavolese was lovely and the food delicious. I felt peaceful and serene in the countryside where we stayed. It was my favorite impression of Italy."

Our Alumni College in Chianti opened officially with a reception on the terrace, accented by a gorgeous sunset over the Elsa Valley. Forty-six tired but enthusiastic people (half VCU alumni and friends and half from



For centuries painters (and shepherds) have valued the magical Tuscan light.

COURTESY OF AHL INTERNATIONAL



BY DIANE STOUT-BROWN '80BSW

U Penn) met to share a week learning about Tuscany and its people. Like Sonia Quinones '81MSW we felt, "My trip to Italy was a dream come true. It was especially delightful to share this great experience with such a group of friendly and enthusiastic alumni."

The week sped by pronto (fast!). Each morning began with a buffet breakfast followed by a short educational presentation and then our excursion for the day, usually less than 45 minutes away. Once there, we experienced what we had learned about, visiting churches, museums, a winery, and always a bit of time for shopping. All the while we were absorbing the blend of history and modern Italy that is life within the old walls of ancient Tuscan towns. Some of us even attended an Italian wedding in our adopted town.



Every night is a festa at Villa Tavolese.

We visited old two fortress towns, Certaldo with its exceptionally high walls and towers and San Gimignano. I wondered how people could live in these old and historic buildings that as tourist sites would likely be untouched by modern times. Then a school bus honked, edged its way through our group and stopped to drop off children whose mothers were waiting, snacks in hand. So, life goes on.

Florence is a city full of life, tourists and Vespas (motorbikes). The streets are narrow and the sidewalks narrower. Dodging Vespas (and pigeons)

was a skill we acquired early. I especially enjoyed the life in the streets, with people everywhere and the city's beauty always on display. One memorable vista is across the River Arno from Michelangelo Square to the Duomo and the PonteVecchio. Many of us were so struck by Florence that we



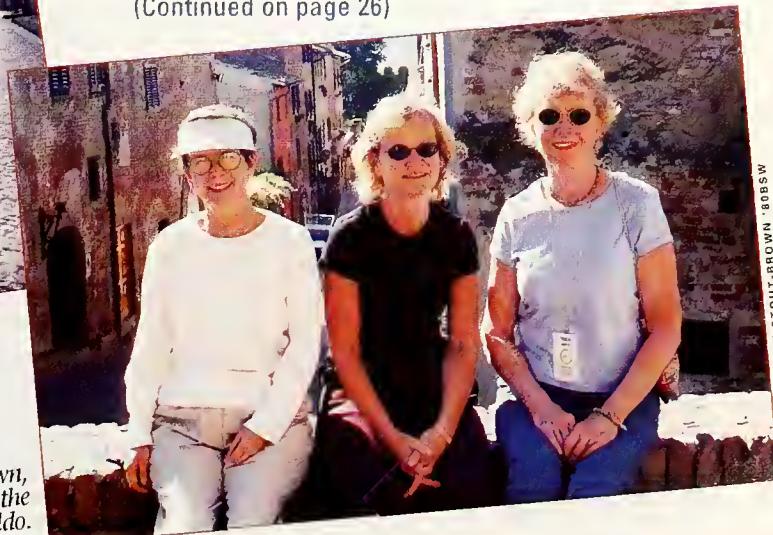
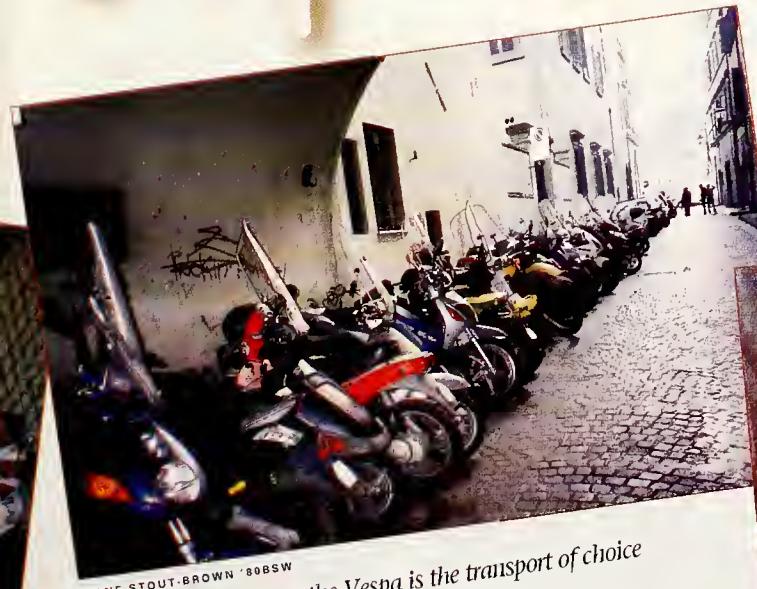
COURTESY OF AHI INTERNATIONAL

*In Florence, the River Arno holds a dusky glow at twilight.*

# Adventures

DIANE STOUT-BROWN • BOBSW  
Compact and efficient, the Vespa is the transport of choice  
for Florentines.

Justine Staples, our writer Diane Stout-Brown,  
and Dr. Patricia Martin '63DDS enjoy the  
October sunshine in medieval Certaldo.



COURTESY OF DIANE STOUT-BROWN • BOBSW

returned on our leisure day. Not a moment of our trip was wasted. The efficient Chiara made reservations for us so we wouldn't have to wait in line at the Uffizi or Academia Museums; we just arrived on time and walked in.

Chiara was an amazing yet typical example of the professionalism of European guides. She was with us

(Continued on page 26)

# "Gentlemen, start your engines!"

BY JOAN TUPPONCE

The cry reverberates across the stands and pandemonium sets in. NASCAR fans leap to their feet as the high-speed racecars roll off the line. Blood races through veins and hearts beat to the rhythm of the track. Drivers and fans are in sync as the excitement builds.

Out of the 75 million fans that watch NASCAR, making it second only to the NFL in television ratings, approximately 40 million are hard core fans, connected in spirit and competition to a specific driver. The loyalty that NASCAR fans exhibit is something celebrities, politicians and NASCAR sponsors dream of.

## Drawing on his Passion

No one knows that better than Sam Bass '84BFA. Bass is NASCAR's first officially licensed artist. From the racers that roar around the track to limited edition prints and souvenir race Programs, to Les Paul guitars and an Elmo from Sesame Street car, the brushstrokes of Bass have made a name in the racing industry, as well as the corporate world.

His 3,500 square-foot gallery in North Carolina features hundreds of his originals, prints and memorabilia.

A native of Hopewell, Virginia, Bass attended his first race at 6, the same age he started drawing and painting. "My uncles were very much into the sport and took me to Southside Speedway," he says. "That's where it all started. From the minute I got there, it seemed like a natural for me."

Years later, Bass, drove to races around the circuit, following Bobby Allison—with his brothers part of the mythic "Alabama Gang" who built their own cars in their garages and raced them on primitive tracks. In 1981, at a garage at Talladega Superspeedway, his hero worship morphed into an art career.

"I think it was the hottest day of the year," Bass recalls, "and I stood in the sun trying to convince this security guard to let me in. After about three hours, he let me go through the gate with this enormous painting I was hoping to get signed by Bobby and his crew. Well,

they loved it, and so did the PR guys for Darrell Waltrip and Terry Labonte, because I got two more commissions that day. I began to think, 'Maybe I can do this for a living."

That same year Paul Sawyer, owner of Richmond International Raceway took the time to look at Bass' artwork and invited him to display his work in the track's media center during the next race. "That was one of the ways to get to the drivers and folks like Dale Earnhardt, who was instrumental in helping me with my career," Bass says.

Bass credits a missed opportunity to work in the federal government's art department as his stepping-stone to becoming a motorsports illustrator. "It was a setback when, due to red tape, that job didn't materialize for me," Bass recalls. "I had just graduated with a degree in fine arts from VCU, and I thought, 'There goes my big chance to draw and paint for a living.'" He had no inkling that his love of painting and his passion for NASCAR would meld into a prosperous career. But they did, thanks to the growing popularity of the sport.

NASCAR hasn't always been the attraction it is today. At the first NASCAR-sanctioned race in 1948, fans cheered for the stock cars that roared around a dirt track. NASCAR's popularity grew after super speedways like Daytona Beach were built in the late '50s and early '60s. Television boosted it even further in 1979 when CBS televised the Daytona 500 in its entirety. Today NASCAR is full throttle with 2,200 events, including 12 different racing series in 39 states across the country.

"The competition is where it begins and ends with NASCAR," says Dee Scott, managing director of licensing for NASCAR. "The fans' loyalty is a key factor in why the brand is attractive to different companies."

Drivers have earned celebrity status not only with their fans but also with the media. Last year, NASCAR Champion Jeff Gordon was named one of the 2002 GQ Men of the Year, alongside celebrities like Denzel Washington and Hugh Grant. There's no doubt these cover guys are stars, but they are anything but distant. Drivers are as devoted to their fans as fans are to them. When a series is at the local track, it's not unusual for a driver to make an appearance at a nearby Kmart, signing autographs and posing for photos.

"The personalities are the key," says Scott. "We have a great mix of young drivers and a good stable of seasoned veterans. It's a mix of talent." Bass's program



Carolina features hundreds of his originals, prints and memorabilia.

cover for the UAW-GM Quality 500 race at Lowe's Motor Speedway in Charlotte, North Carolina illustrates the battle between NASCAR's "Young Guns" and its established drivers. "In 2002, it was all about young and eager versus mature and experienced," Bass says. "That's the image I was shooting for with 'Draw!'"

"Sam has a love for the sport," says Ryan Gililand, licensing coordinator for NASCAR. "Things he gets excited about are translated through his work. The impact he has through design work on cars translates to products and the fans' experience. He's had a positive impact on the sport."

Scott agrees. "Sam has great vision. He saw things unfolding eight years ago. He's very creative and professional, and he's the nicest guy. He's a total asset to this industry."

Bass says his career highlight came in 1997 when he was asked to design the paint scheme for the late Dale Earnhardt's car. The artwork and original drawings were used on the Wheaties box. "It was a special day, a tremendous accomplishment for an athlete to have his likeness on Wheaties," Bass says. "It was special for me to share that honor with him."

Another highlight: Designing the paint scheme for Jeff Gordon's Rainbow Warrior car in 1992 and his 2001 edition Fire and Flames car. On a personal note, Bass says his designs for Jeff

Gordon's "Elmo" car stand out in his mind. "I have a 2-year-old daughter and this is the greatest thing that Dad will ever do. It's just a super thing to go to work every day and have a great time at work. This is something I am going to be doing for a long time to come."

## Electrifying

John Miska '97BA/H&S, is also wrapped up in the NASCAR experience. Miska is a freelance technician for the production companies that work with networks like ABC, NBC, CBS and ESPN to produce sporting events. In more than 20 years in the field, Miska's jobs have ranged from production management to camera work and audio. The technical aspects of putting NASCAR on the air are tremendous.

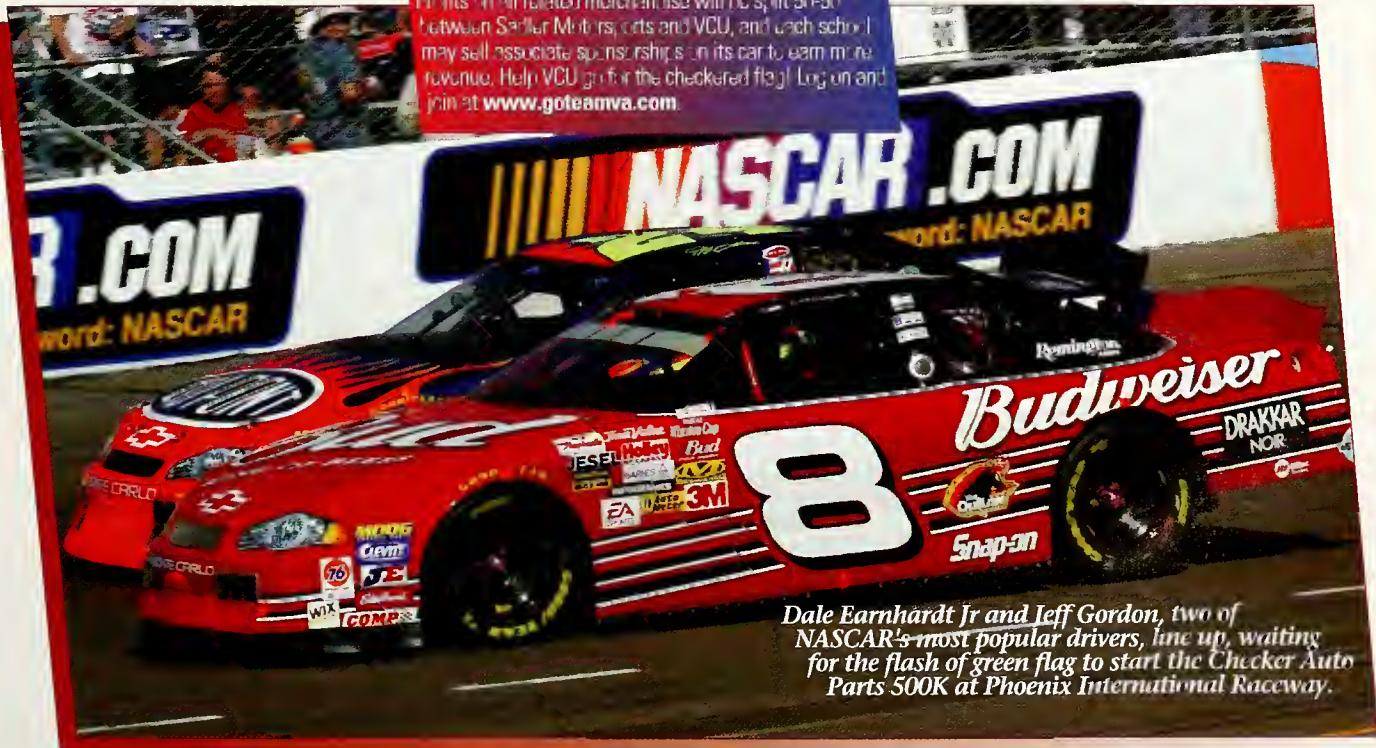
"You've got from six to 16 hard cameras with long lenses around the racetrack and sometimes as many as 24," Miska explains. "You have two or three handheld cameras on Pit row. You have in-car cameras and 30 to 40 discreet video feeds. You've got statisticians working with graphic artists to create the graphics that are layered on the feed." And that's just the beginning. Add commentators with wireless mikes, sound, an intercom network, videotape operations and more. "You could have a crew from 20 to 100 people putting together that race," Miska says. "It's all like tributaries coming into the main body of the program—the image on the screen and the sounds you hear."

### Checkered Flag for UCU!

In a blaze of black and gold, VCU's own racecar will be running in at least one of the NASCAR Winston Cup Series races. VCU will compete alongside UPS, Tide and Valvoline through Team Virginia, a marketing partnership with Sandler Motorsports.

VCU, Virginia Tech, UVA, James Madison and VMI have joined the team. Each school will have its own "team" car, driven by Hemie Snellor, competing in a selected race. VCU will also have its own line of VCU/NASCAR merchandise to offer to students, faculty, staff, alumni and fans.

Major funding for Team Virginia cars will be the paid membership based website: [www.goteamva.com](http://www.goteamva.com). Along with great TeamVA merchandise, members get up-to-the minute news about the team, unique access to promotions and exclusive interactive web content. The fits on all related merchandise will be split 50/50 between Sandler Motorsports and VCU, and each school may sell associate sponsorships on its car to earn more revenue. Help VCU grab the checkered flag! Log on and join at [www.goteamva.com](http://www.goteamva.com).





*Kelley Rumsey, Nascar Nurse*

JEFF MASTER

Miska travels across the country with different sporting events. And, he has stories to tell—like the time he was a cameraman doing handhelds in the stands when a flaming car flipped through the air. “The flames singed my hair and beard,” he recalls. “I saw the picture in Sports Illustrated and saw my shadow.”

Miska’s memories are many and range from tales of Davy Allison to Rusty Wallace and Dale Earnhardt. At one NASCAR race, he had to vouch for Richard Petty. “He’d come to the track for a television interview and had forgotten his credentials,” Miska says. “The guard wouldn’t let him in. I had to vouch for him and get him through the gate for the interviews.” Another time he saw Petty’s car flip end over end and land right in front of him.

A standout is his first meeting with his friend Dale Earnhardt. Miska was working at Charlotte, now Lowe’s Motor Speedway, and had to crawl through the drainage sewer to pull cables. As he tried to pull himself up and out of the grate, he heard voices and called for help. Earnhardt came over and asked, “What the hell are you doing there? Are you a sewer rat?” The name stuck and Earnhardt jokingly referred to that incident many times.

Across the country and across the years, Miska has worked with NASCAR drivers, pit crew and owners. He counts the Richard Childress racing corporation (sponsoring the Dale Earnhardt team and others), and the Sawyers, who owned Richmond International Raceway, as longtime friends.

## A Dangerous Sport

Stock car racing is a sport with its hazards, even for the fans. Kelley Rumsey ’96BS ’00MS ’01Cert/N manages a different kind of pit stop. She helps coordinate health services at the outfield spectator care center at the Richmond Raceway. “We have responsibility to provide

urgent medical services for more than 100,000 people,” she explains. During the race, there is also an infield care center for the drivers and additional first-aid stands, linked to EMS teams and ambulances positioned around the racetrack. “We make the decision whether to transport fans who become ill to the hospital or bring them to the care center where we can do minor emergency care.”

It’s all her husband’s fault, Rumsey jokes. “He’s a huge NASCAR fan and I would come with him.” Her race day hours run from 10 a.m. to 1 a.m. “We have to stay open one hour after the checkered flag,” she explains.

The fall 2002 race in Richmond was extremely busy. “We treated a lot of dehydration, falls, and we had some serious concerns like heart problems, allergic reactions, overbeveraging and alcohol-related events. We saw a total of 60 patients.” Medical services are provided free. “People try to offer us money for Tylenol, and so on.” She smiles. “Some tell us we are the best deal on the track.”

Rumsey marvels that fans “don’t want to give up the chance to see the race even when they have a medical problem.” That’s the level of commitment NASCAR generates. Visual flash and media hype have fueled the sport’s tremendous growth and national reach. America is enthralled with NASCAR, and VCU alumni have helped build the excitement.

*Joan Tupponce is the editor of Scarab, the alumni magazine for VCU’s MCV Campus, and a careful driver. Learn more about Sam Bass at [www.sam bass.com](http://www.sam bass.com).*



# IT HAPPENS EVERY SPRING



BY KAREN SOKOHL '90MIS/H&S

JOSEPH SOKOHL '95BA/H&S

Springtime in Richmond: blooming azalea bushes, serene blue skies. Soundbites drift over from a nearby alumni reunion...

"Hey, do you remember when Crandall broke his collarbone in Christopher Newport?"

"At Radford we got pulled over in a U-Haul truck. The guy opened up the back and there we were—50 of us and a keg."

"JMU was a trip, man. We set the couch on fire! Not exactly the Chess Club reunion."

Meet VCU Rugby's Old Boys. I watched their match last April, at the elementary school field near Leigh and Belvidere. Each spring since the late '80s, former members of the VCU Rugby Club return to their old scrumming grounds for a weekend of camaraderie and competition. This year the match is VCU vs. VCU, the Old Boys against the student VCU Rugby Club, revived only this spring, coached by Greg Crandall '94BA/H&S (collarbone long since mended) with assistant coach Pete Murray '95BA/H&S.

"The reunion is a great way for guys to renew the bonds of friendship and just have lots of fun," said Murray. "In the '80s we'd start off the weekend by meeting Friday night to hear the band in Shafer Court. Later we'd all end up at some party in the Fan. We'd have the game on Saturday, and then on Sunday it was understood that everyone would eat at the Texas-Wisconsin Border Café. Most of us don't see each other except for this one time all year."



My own image of rugby culture was based entirely on my college roommate's boyfriend. During one party, his mates climbed on top of a coffee table to sing and broke it in half with their weight. Later, they stripped and swam one by one in the plastic baby pool on the balcony. One guy even jumped off the balcony onto a car below, breaking his tailbone.

Murray listened patiently to my tale and shrugged. "Everyone has heard a story about a crazy rugby guy. But once you get on the inside you find that it's not as barbaric or as wild as you might think. They're even starting some youth programs in Richmond."

Physical education teacher, Adam Moss '96BS/B, BS/E, elaborates, "We are introducing it to middle schools through the PE classes. We get lots of support, especially in terms of equipment. We're basically teaching the teachers by offering in-services in their schools so they in turn can teach their kids." Old Boys John Atkinson '88BS/B and Adan Angulo '93BS/B coach youth rugby in Northern Virginia.

Of course, the face of rugby has changed. Some of those rugby boys aren't even boys. VCU Women's Rugby Club is active again for the first time since the early '80s, revived by Shannon Bustillos, VCU coordinator for



Evening Programs, an excellent player and coach. Bustillos and a friend started a women's rugby team at Marquette University in fall of 1994; they were national champions by 1997. At VCU, "the girls really took to Shannon as a coach," said Murray. "It really helped with the growth of their team." Alumni player, Marisa Parker '99BFA, adds, "Shannon is amazing. I can only aspire to have her dedication and talent."

Bustillos herself said, "I'm really excited about this team. Some teams I've coached have been more interested in the social side, but these

women are serious athletes. Most of them are really young, and I can see a lot of potential."

The women joined the Old Boys in this year's events, drawing names from a hat for an inter-squad scrimmage. They started the match with a game of sevens, rugby-speak for four seven-minute sessions. A typical rugby game is four 15-minute sessions, but time was short.

Just before the game, Bustillos shouted last-minute safety instructions.

"OK ladies—if you have 'em in, take out your earrings, your tongue rings, your belly button rings, whatever. Let's get going!"

They did, generating some enthusiastic sideline coaching. "Get her by the legs," screamed one Old Boy. "Get her legs!"

Despite getting shoved, kicked, and generally roughed up, Bustillos scored twice. As she walked back into position after the opposition scored, she was heard muttering, "I hate this game, I hate this game." The final score: VCU 33-VCU 10.

Young boys grow into old boys. Many of them have wives and babies, several of whom were sitting in lawn chairs, visiting with old friends and enjoying the match. Coach Crandall also chairs the Old Boys group. "We charge a \$50 reunion fee and then people often give more," he explains. "It pays for the reunion, and helps with expenses for the student Club."

Now 35, Atkinson played actively with city clubs until just two years ago. But some of the Old Boys who rally only once a year find that muscles don't rebound like they used to. "You get old, and you don't want to play just once a year," said Gusto (pronounced in English, not Spanish), a.k.a. James Mattocks '86MS(RC)/AH '96MPA/H&S, one of the original Old Boys. This year he stuck to cheering from the sidelines, con mucho gusto, of course. But he carries sweet memories and fond scars from his days in the scrum. "I was at a tourna-



ment once and broke a finger and got six sutures in my head. It wasn't a bad cut, but you know scalp wounds—they bleed a lot."

"It's too easy to get hurt when you only play once a year," continued Gusto. "Pretty soon you'll see a lot of these Old Boys out there sucking wind."

Old Boy Roy Manuel '80BA/H&S has been around rugby nearly as long as Gusto. But you wouldn't guess it by his moves on the field. He was fast and scrappy and full of energy. He has never missed a reunion and is the biggest financial booster for the student club. Jogging by during a break in play, Manuel pointed to one of the younger guys and flashed a big grin. "I played with his older brother over 20 years ago!"

Gusto was playing back then too. He started in 1979 while attending graduate school part time, eventually earning Masters degrees in Public Administration and Rehabilitation Counseling. He rattled off several other degrees he received from other schools, but after the first few I lost track. Multiple knocks on the head don't have the impact you'd think.

In fact, rugby pushed Murray, a political science major, to further academic heights. "When I started playing rugby I became really interested in all countries that played. Not just England and Ireland, but places like Fiji, Samoa, Japan. I'd comb the newspaper for news about these countries, and as a result I learned of a coup that was taking place in Fiji. Because I was reading the paper every day, I really got into it. But I would probably never have learned about it in the first place if I hadn't been following the papers religiously for rugby news."

The socials afterward (referred to as the third half) are as much a part of rugby as the match. VCU Rugby Reunion includes Friday evening cocktails and Sunday brunch as well as the cookout after the game.

In most sports, Bustillos commented, the heated struggles on the field almost preclude friendship. "Afterward you shake hands with the opposing team and go home. In rugby—and I've seen

fights break out on the field—you shake hands and it's over." Gerald Bowman '82 MSW had that feeling about U Richmond-VCU conflicts, "the hardest games and the best parties of all. The mutual respect and competition were unmatched."

Atkinson elaborated as he laced up his shoes on the sidelines. "Rugby is unique, because at one time only about 40,000 people played in the entire country. So it really becomes like a family. You end up seeing these guys only once or twice a year."

"You have instant friends when you move to a new city," Bustillos agreed, adding, "Sometimes I almost look at it as a cult." Parker agreed that rugby is "instant comaraderie." She entered rugby culture with almost reckless abandon. "I heard that James River Women were starting a team. I had never played a sport and figured it was time." It was a good leap of faith. "It is the best thing mentally and physically that I have ever done for myself. It is such a pleasure to play with college teams. I do my best to convince anyone how great this sport is."

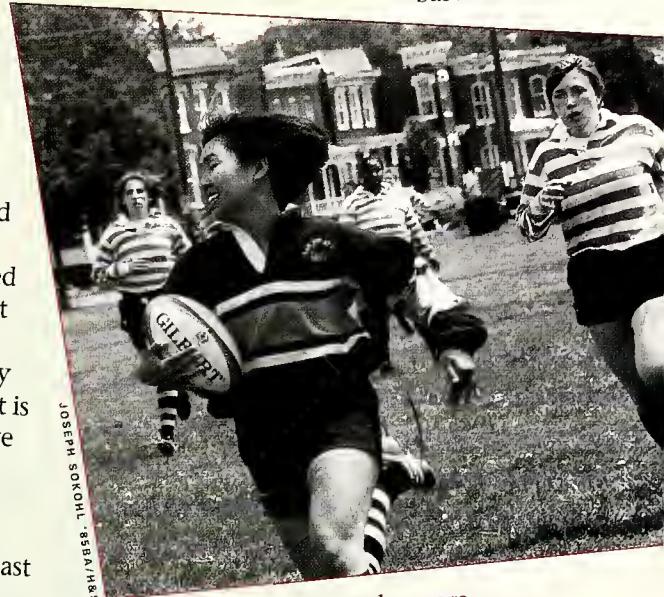
"When we do get together," Atkinson continued, "we always toast three guys who have passed on. Bobby McDonald '86BS/H&S, George Gering '87BA/H&S and a guy named Fish. Fish never really played with us, but he was an unofficial member of the team. His brother, Paul Johnson '93BS/B (we called him Adolph) played, and Fish was always around. He was definitely a member of our family. A reunion doesn't go by where we don't raise our glasses to these guys."

I paused a bit to watch the game with him. It's a noisy game, but not the continuous crunch of plastic padding in American football. Rugby players don't wear any padding, so the crash is more of a gentle thud. Plus lots of grunting and groaning. Lots of "oofs!" And lots of editorializing.

"The touch judge is wack, guys!" "We're still winning though, damn it!"

In fact, Old Boys were winning handily over Young Boys, even though many of those Old Boys had shared a keg the night before. I mentioned this to Reyn Kinzey, English professor, student club faculty advisor, and member of the Virginia Gentleman's Rugby Club in Richmond. He defended his athletes.

"Since many players continue with city or community clubs after graduation, the Old Boys can call upon eight to ten years of experience, while these young guys have a year or two at the most. But they're not doing too badly. You would think they were getting clobbered based



on the score, but they're holding their own pretty well."

The game went to Old Boys, 28-7.

It really didn't matter who won. Happy and sweaty, guys were high-fiving and butt-slapping each other in the field. Old and Young, all the rugger Boys crowded under the goal post for the requisite group picture... or I suppose you could call it a family photo.

The "Old Boys" meet this year on April 25-27. Contact Greg Crandal at [kpreble@aol.com](mailto:kpreble@aol.com) for more information.

*Karen Sokol fits in freelance writing around her communications job at United Network for Organ Sharing (UNOS) in Richmond.*

# BALANCING

## VCU RESPONDS TO VIRGINIA'S BUDGET CRISIS

BY JORIEL FOLTZ

The first cuts came in May.

Facing a faltering economy and a \$3.8 billion shortfall in the state's \$50.1 billion biennium budget, Virginia reduced general funding to VCU by \$18.6 million for fiscal year 2003 and by \$25.2 million for fiscal year 2004. In response, the VCU Board of Visitors approved a two-year budget that cut 219 course sections from the total 5,500, laid off 30 full-time faculty positions, eliminated 77 other vacant positions, raised tuition, and increased some class sizes.

But there was more to come. In August, still facing a \$2 billion shortfall, Governor Mark Warner asked all state agencies and institutions to submit three budget reduction plans of 7 percent, 11 percent, and 15 percent. A committee of administrators, faculty, staff, and students met with President Eugene Trani to discuss VCU's options.

Discussions were difficult, said Paul Timmreck, VCU's senior vice president for finance and administration. "The faculty and others, because they care about the quality of services, [were] genuinely concerned about how much of this can you do." Nevertheless, cooperation and teamwork governed the process. "I saw people at all levels pulling together and really trying to do the best job they can," said Timmreck.

President Trani presented the budget reduction scenarios to the Board of Visitors and the Governor

in September, noting that state funding to the university had already dropped to about the same level as during the early '90s recession, after adjustment for inflation.

In October, Governor Warner announced statewide layoffs and cuts totaling \$858 million. Although one *Richmond Times-Dispatch* article called these cuts "little more than a tourniquet for the two-year budget," they were felt deeply at VCU where general funding was cut by an additional \$15.3 million for 2002-03 and an additional \$18.1 million for 2003-04. This brought total state funding reductions to \$77.2 million over two years. This reduction represents about a 25% cut in our state general fund base for Educational and General Programs (E&G). With added tuition from rate increases and enrollment growth, the overall E&G budget in 2003-04 is about 4% below 2001-02.

Virginia's support for VCU students has now fallen below early 1990s' recession levels, with or without adjustment for inflation.

More cuts are possible. The Governor continues to work towards a balanced budget in the face of continued lower revenues, and the General Assembly is focusing on the budget crisis now. In the meantime, VCU is making difficult decisions. But no amount of budgetary stress will diminish the university's commitment to excellence.

President Trani guarantees that "our faculty, student body, adminis-

tration, and staff all share in the commitment to manage the cuts in such a way that everything possible is done to preserve the teaching and research enterprises."

### COUNTING THE CUTS

After the second round of budget cuts, VCU announced additional staff reductions. In total, preliminary estimates indicate that 150 full-time employees may be laid off, and 155 vacant positions eliminated through



**WANT TO HELP?** Respond when students and fellow alumni call from your School. Remember, your gift means sustaining support for your school and its students—which capital building campaigns, though essential to VCU's growth, do not address. For information, call Thomas Burke at (804) 828-6491; fax (804) 828-0884; [tcburke@vcu.edu](mailto:tcburke@vcu.edu). Or go to the VCU Foundation website at [www.vcuf.org](http://www.vcuf.org).

# THE BOOKS

2004. In layoffs, about 60 will come from instructional and academic support areas, including adjunct and collateral faculty. Other lost positions include administrative staff in business services, human resources and facilities management.

In undergraduate programs, department chairs were directed to preserve freshman and sophomore general education courses and courses needed by graduating seniors. Most of the courses eliminated are electives within various majors. With fewer courses offered, class size has ballooned. "We have

cases where class sizes have gone from 50 to 350 overnight," says Dr. Stephen Gottfredson, dean of the College of Humanities and Sciences. "This requires a very different kind of preparation and presentation, and people are really scrambling to meet that challenge. But everyone recognizes that we're not doing this to ourselves, and there is sort of a feeling of let's roll up our sleeves and get it done and hope it doesn't last forever."

Reductions are hitting divisions across the university, from library acquisitions and student wages to

cleaning and maintenance. One cut is the GRTC program, which gave students a free ride on city buses; students can buy a semester bus pass for \$50. At VCU Alumni Activities, we had stopped sending this magazine free to all alumni with the fall 2002 issue; it's now a benefit of Alumni Association membership or support of the University.

On the MCV Campus, the School of Medicine plans to close its center for generalist medicine and reduce funding for its autism and family practice residency programs—saving more than \$2.6 million over two years. "These are difficult cuts to make," says Dr. Hermes Kontos, vice president for health sciences and CEO of the VCU Health System. "It's difficult to maintain the level of quality we need to deliver to students with these constraints."

"The cuts are all over the place," said President Trani. "These are Draconian measures in very hard times."

To mitigate the cuts, tuition increases are part of a short-term fix. VCU's biennium budget adopted in May raised tuition by 9% for resident undergraduates and 8% for all other student groups. In November, after the second round of budget cuts, the Board of Visitors unanimously approved an additional mid-year tuition increase of \$300 per semester. After all but one of Virginia's public universities took this step, officials noted that the mid-nineties tuition freeze and rollbacks in recent years may have fostered an artificial sense that students could be protected from inflation and the shifting economy. Now tuition must catch up to reality. And unfortunately, says board member Steven Markel, "this is probably not the end of tuition increases."

The most recent increase will replace one dollar for every two dollars and twenty cents in reduced



taxpayer support. Twenty-five dollars of each student's tuition will go towards need-based financial aid. This will add up to \$375,000 for spring 2003 and about \$750,000 for the next school year. "Beyond that, what we're proposing to do is to direct the remainder of the money to providing relief to direct instructional areas in terms of hiring adjunct faculty and things of that nature," says Timmreck.

Student fees will also be increased or added. The University fee for 2003-2004 will increase from \$973 to \$1,015. The fee for arts majors will rise from \$150 to \$245 per semester. Student activity fees for the Academic Campus will rise from \$45 to \$90, and Student government fees on the MCV Campus will increase from \$29 to \$56. Undergraduates in biology, chemistry, and forensic sciences will pay a new lab fee of \$25-\$35; undergraduates in the School of Nursing will pay a clinical fee of \$50 per credit hour.

## RECOVERY

In the short term, none of these measures will completely offset current painful losses. For the long term, President Trani has outlined a six-point plan to reduce VCU's dependence on Virginia taxpayers. VCU will

- continue to increase enrollment, especially of out-of-state students;
- win more research funding
- raise more private funds
- make operations more efficient and enhance learning and research environments
- pursue entrepreneurship opportunities
- ensure the future financial stability of the VCU Health System.

VCU can increase its "independent capabilities" through increasing enrollment, especially out-of-state students. Total enrollment in Fall 2002 was 26,009. In fall 1996, VCU enrolled 1,996 out-of-state students. In fall 2002, there were 2,597. Students who are not Virginia resi-

dents pay more than three times as much in tuition, more than the cost of their educations, which supplements the cost of educating in-state students. Sue Ann Messmer, chief of staff in the Office of the President and vice president for University Outreach, says that VCU will focus recruiting on out-of-state students from 2003 onward.

The second point in the President's plan is to keep VCU research funds growing. In the past two years, external awards for research have risen by about \$45 million, a 36% increase. In 2001-02, the university took in \$169 million in research awards, with increases in almost every school. "That's one out of every five dollars that come to this institution and it transforms the caliber of the faculty and the nature of the education we can offer," says Dr. Marsha Torr, vice president for research.

Torr cautions that state funding cuts create challenges to increasing research dollars. When salaries are less competitive and teaching loads are heavier, attracting high-quality faculty and giving them time to conduct research is much more difficult. But in times of state budget cuts, research awards become even more important. Torr explains that these funds are "really the only means the university has to conduct leading research. They are fundamental in terms of building competitive laboratories, providing state-of-the-art equipment, start-up packages for new faculty, and graduate fellowships."

"Research funding doesn't 'offset' state funding losses," Torr continues. "It's a different world to some extent, and ideally you'd like both budgets to be growing as one leverages the other. But VCU is coming to terms with the need to become less dependent on the state, to diversify its revenue portfolio and grow its independent capabilities."

More private funds are an integral part of President Trani's prescription for moving VCU toward self-sufficiency. Donors often design-

ate their gifts for particular programs or projects—named scholarships or chairs, and often buildings. This still leaves deans and center directors, especially now, struggling to keep operating. They need maximum flexibility to manage scarce resources and provide annual scholarships. For most universities, those all-important unrestricted funds come from alumni giving to Annual Funds.

In 2001-02, VCU had its highest ever total of private gifts, \$63.8 million. Much of that support comes from non-alumni friends in the community. "VCU's alumni participation generally averages 11% a year," says Peter Wyeth, VCU vice president for advancement. Deans of all VCU's Schools must convince more alumni to give to their Schools' Annual Funds as well as giving to special capital appeals that will permanently transform the University. "Gifts alone will not solve the problem," Wyeth cautions, "but they are an essential piece. For VCU to flourish, we need both transforming major capital gifts and sustaining annual gifts."

A fourth principle is operational efficiency. VCU is cutting staff and renegotiating outside contracts (such as janitorial services). Renovating and expanding learning and research environments will draw quality faculty and students, and more research funding.

A major piece of this strategy was working to pass Virginia's Higher Education Bond Referendum. On November 5, about 72 percent of Virginia voters approved the Education Bond proposal. This \$900 million borrowing package will be used primarily to help colleges and universities renovate and construct buildings over the next six years. VCU will receive \$76.8 million, to be divided among eight building projects on both the Academic and MCV Campuses. When University and private donor contributions are added, as well as the State's contribution for equipment, the value of the projects totals \$143.4 million.

# "WE ARE NOT GOING TO LET THESE EXTERNAL FORCES DERAIL US FROM OUR VISION AND OUR GOALS."

"Obviously this is a very big deal for VCU and I am very grateful to the people of the Commonwealth of Virginia for expressing their confidence in higher education," said President Trani. "It's a psychological shot in the arm at a time when operating budgets are having difficulty."

On the Academic Campus, the bulk of the money, \$16.1 million, will refurbish some of VCU's oldest buildings—Hibbs, the Music Center Building, Franklin Terrace—into modern, effective learning environments. Another \$6.2 million goes toward a \$36.3 million privately funded Phase II addition to the Engineering School, now "bursting at the seams," says Dean Robert Mattauch. On the MCV Campus, primary projects are a \$28.5 million addition to the Massey Cancer Center (\$10.1 million from the bond issue, the rest from private dollars) and \$35 million for Phase II of the Medical Sciences Building (\$22.6 million from the bond issue), both critical to bringing in more research funding and maintaining Massey's status as one of only 60 National Cancer Institute-designated centers in the country. Another \$27.5 million goes to renovations at West Hospital/George Ben Johnston and labs at Sanger Hall.

Entrepreneurship can create new sources of funds for VCU. On June 27, 2002, the first 21 graduates of VCU-Qatar School of Design Arts in Doha received their bachelor's degrees in graphic, fashion and interior design. VCU-Qatar creates a significant revenue stream for the University and its School of the Arts. The Adcenter's graduate program has swept national awards since its first year in 1996-97. The Fast Track MBA Program in the School of Business gives executives information and contacts they need to be effective in a global context.

The final piece of VCU's plan is ensuring financial viability and com-

petitiveness of the VCU Health System, where the effects of state budget reductions come on top of cost-cutting measures already in force. Last spring The Hunter Group consulting firm studied the VCU Health System and recommended cutting up to 1,000 positions over the next three years. None of these positions are in direct patient care, and no services would be eliminated because of downsizing. In November, 240 positions were trimmed, most of them vacant. Dr. Sheldon Retchin, VCU Health System senior executive vice president and COO, promised that the 30 people who were laid off will be offered other jobs whenever possible.

## ENDURANCE, AND INGENUITY

VCU leaders are working hard to convince Virginia's elected officials of the long-term impact of serious disinvestment in higher education. Two years ago a base adequacy study by the Virginia General Assembly concluded that Virginia spent about 10 percent less in both state tax money and tuition on higher education than peer systems across the nation. That was before the most recent cuts.

President Trani thinks Virginia legislators should take note that their constituents, approving the bond issue in November, have just voted overwhelmingly for state-supported higher education. Furthermore, although renovations and expansion are crucial as enrollment continues to rise, the bond issue supports only capital building improvements. This money is separate from instructional and administrative budgets and doesn't replace those "Draconian cuts."

"We will do the best we can with the resources we are given," Trani maintains. VCU continues to look for alternative funding so the current

political and economic situation will not impede our growth in quality education and national recognition.

Virginia's budget crisis could become a propitious moment in VCU's history, the beginning of a more self-reliant future in which students and faculty are not so vulnerable. VCU's pragmatic past will serve the university well in this crisis. The school's founder, Dr. Henry Hibbs, was energetic and entrepreneurial in the service of professional education and building his school. Did the Medical College of Virginia need occupational therapists? Yes, of course RPI would set up a program. By all means, buy Franklin Street mansions at bargain prices and fill them with students whose room and board payments covered the mortgages and added to RPI coffers. VCU is still adept at finding its niche, from creating a visionary new School of Engineering to offering a desperately needed American Humanics Certificate in nonprofit management. Or converting an adjacent hospital to an Honors Dorm.

"I think the main point to get across is that we are determined that we are not going to let these external forces derail us from our vision and our goals," says Dean Gottfredson. "The sense around campus that I feel is that people are more determined than ever to meet the mission. It's as if you've had another knapsack added to your back as the hike proceeds, but you're not giving up."

*Joriel Foltz is a Richmond freelancer who writes often for Shafer Court Connections.*

*Illustration by Chad Cameron '94BFA/A.*

# FAREWELLS



## ICON—AND WORKING ARTIST Theresa Pollak (1899-2002)

BY DEVERON TIMBERLAKE '91MA/H&S

Restraint was not a word in Theresa Pollak's vocabulary. She sometimes drove students to tears, and to better work, with critiques that were unflinchingly honest. Passion compelled her to draw exuberant figures and landscapes even when she could barely see.

Theresa Pollak didn't expect to become a Richmond icon in an era when modern art was considered almost blasphemous. And yet, the teacher and painter pushed the city into an arts consciousness that continues to be a vibrant legacy. She launched visual arts programs at both VCU and the University of Richmond, earned honorary degrees and awards, and gave her name to an arts building at VCU. Most important, she carried out her intense need to create art until her physical abilities were exhausted. Pollak died September 18, 2002, a month after her 103rd birthday.

"She thought of art almost like religion," says photographer Willie Ann Wright '64MFA/A of her former teacher and friend. "Art was something to value and strive for, to do your best in, to realize what talent you'd been given and to bring it to the peak of its performance."

"She never really stopped growing and pushing herself," gallery owner and friend Beverly Reynolds recalls. "She never lost that desire to talk about art and to be challenging. She always felt she was given such an incredible opportunity to teach at VCU, to really do something and to do it in a strong way."

Pollak, who taught painting and drawing at VCU from 1928 until 1969, was known for her exacting standards. "She was completely honest," former student and faculty member Milo Russell '55BFA told *Style Weekly*, "but aware of the fact that she didn't possess a lot of tact. She once told me, 'You have to stand up and let people know exactly how you feel. If you don't, you're not being honest with yourself or others.'"

Honesty drove Pollak's approach to art. She looked for strength of form, underlying meanings and mysteries, elements that gave depth and feeling to compositions. "Art is not an imitation of nature," she told the *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, "but an artist's reaction to life." She resisted painting prettiness and urged her students to delve more deeply into ideas.

"She taught from a solid point of view," says former student and VCU faculty colleague Bernard Martin '59BFA. "Everyone who went through her classes learned very important stuff about visual language, materials and vocabulary, and they learned a commitment to a discipline. She always had a tremendous respect for discipline."

Pollak trained at the Richmond Art Club, the Art Students' League of New York and at Harvard. She was 59 when she traveled to Massachusetts to study under abstract-expressionist painter Hans Hoffman. Under Hoffman's fierce critiques the experienced teacher reinvigorated her technique, making work that combined abstract and realistic points of view.

"She was very grounded in strong composition and the formal qualities of painting," Reynolds says, "so her compositions were very solid and sure, and then she had a rich sense of color and used color to create masterful oil paintings." Most were based on views from her studio or windows; her favorite painting was a 1967 oil of the James River.

Pollak's works began to sell when she was nearly 80, and Reynolds recalls that the artist was more interested in where the paintings were going than what price they fetched.

Age did not diminish her interest in creation. "As she got older, the majesty of the universe became more unbelievable to her. She was overwhelmed by the powerful quality of it," Reynolds says. "She never became cynical, she never became blasé," notes Martin. "She continued to make art all her life, always had control over herself and what she was doing, and a deep and profound professional commitment on many levels."

Through the years, the Anderson Gallery had acquired 100 of Pollak's and her students' works; and she had given her papers to VCU Library's Special Collections. At her death she left VCU one painting, twenty works on paper and a portfolio of selected work from the Reynolds Gallery.

Her greatest legacy to VCU is the School of the Arts, one of the largest in the country, with 3,000 students and more than 300 public events each year. Many of *Richmond Magazine's* Pollak Awards in the Arts, instituted in 1998, have gone to VCU alumni and faculty. The School of the Arts has enriched the world with a stream of artists, including the late Nell Blaine '42, whom *Time* called a "premiere American painter"; environmental photographer **Emmet Gowin '65BFA**; illustrator Bill Nelson '70BFA; Oscar-winning (E.T.) special effects artist Kenneth Smith '69BFA; sculptor Tara Donovan '99MFA; and hundreds—thousands—more.

"The art scene, not just in Richmond but in the region, would not be what it is today without her," Martin says. "Not just the visual arts, but the performing arts and to some extent the literary arts. She got something started, and it had a momentum of its own. A great number of people fed the arts here, but Theresa started it."

*Theresa Pollak website: [www.library.vcu.edu/exhibits/](http://www.library.vcu.edu/exhibits/)*

*Deveron Timberlake is a freelance writer and editor in Richmond.*

## "MR. VCU"

BY JENNIFER BUCKMAN '96BS/MC

"Enthusiastic!" That's the word nearly everyone uses to describe John Mapp, who led Virginia Commonwealth University's Evening College and Summer School from 1964 until his retirement in 1978. "He was enthusiastic about everything he was interested in, and he was interested in almost everything," says his daughter, **Elva Mapp '95MED**.

Mapp died August 17, 2002, in his Richmond home, at 89. He had recently been diagnosed with cancer.

After Mapp arrived at Richmond Professional Institute in 1964, enrollment in the evening and summer programs swelled, and at one point boasted the largest enrollment of any night program on a single campus in the nation. Mapp continually looked for new ways to get programs to students, offering classes on weekends, shortened intensive summer courses, and mini-sessions during winter break.

He was as energetic about marketing courses. Mapp was the first to print and circulate class schedules with local newspapers. Friends recall that sometimes he would stand out on the street, handing out class schedules to passers by. For his leadership in the field, Mapp was elected president of the National Association of Summer Sessions.

"He was absolutely on the student's side," said Loyce Andrews, who worked with him in the continuing education office. "He didn't want anything to stand in a student's way of education. In a lot of ways, he was Mr. VCU."



**John Mapp (1913-2002)**  
**Elizabeth Mapp '37-'39 (1920-2002)**

Mapp's warmth and genuine affection for nearly everyone was evident even in phone conversations. Many co-workers remember picking up the phone and hearing his familiar salutation, "Hello, this is your friend John Mapp." (If a woman was on the line, he reflexively stood up.)

Dinah Wolfe '69BA/H&S, who earned her VCU degree in English at 61, was Mapp's assistant for a decade. "He was just the human and most delightful person. He had such a sense of humor and he was always smiling. I saw a lot of students go into his office, and when they walked out, they were smiling too. He had that effect on people."

Mapp also developed VCU's continuing education program. The first course offered was Shakespeare in Film, Wolfe says. "We were teased later on about having started the program in a shoe box, which is where we kept the first card file on people who expressed interest in enrolling."

Rozanne Epps worked with Mapp for 14 years and succeeded him as director of the Evening College and Continuing Education. She saw him as a man of character—in both senses. He had "moral strength, self-discipline and fortitude." He also had his eccentricities. "It is a special blessing," she wrote in *Style Weekly*, when the two modes of character "are combined in one person. The community is richer for it, and life takes on a bit of color and fun." Epps mentions both Mapp's devotion to older students and his personal form of aphasia, which could lead to informing those students that a course ran "from September to Fredericksburg."

The Accomac native was a commissioner of the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service in New Orleans before returning to Virginia to join VCU. He had many years of experience in career counseling, personnel management and arbitration; and he was a former director of personnel for the city of Richmond.

A World War II Navy veteran, he was skipper of a PT boat and took part in the recapture of Corregidor. The son of the late state Sen. Walter Mapp, John Mapp was active in Democratic politics throughout his life. In 1980, at the age of 67, he ran unsuccessfully for Virginia's 3rd District seat in Congress, losing to Thomas J. Bliley Jr.

Mapp's wife of 10 years, **Elizabeth Wayland Nelson Robinson Mapp '37-'39**, had been in poor health as well. She died at their home on August 18, hours after her husband. Betsy Mapp, a retired nurse at Collegiate School, was 82. Mapp was the widower of Mary Bell Archer Mapp, who died in 1992.

In the 1980s, John and his wife established the Dr. John S. and Mildred Aydelotte Fund to assist the library in support of the Honors Program. In 2001 John and Betsy gave VCU 85 acres on the Eastern Shore of Virginia, which was sold to create an annuity and ultimately added to the Aydelotte Fund.

"There was a column in the *Richmond News Leader* some time before John Mapp retired," Wolfe recalls, "in which Mike Houston declared that 'John Mapp of VCU is the most innovative educator in the state of Virginia.' I heartily agree."

*Jenifer Buckman is a staff writer at the Richmond Times-Dispatch, which published a version of this obituary August 18, 2002.*

## AD: DESIGN GENIUS

After a strong battle and a period of remission, Philip Meggs died of leukemia on November 24, 2002. He was 60. Meggs is internationally recognized for his own design work and as a design critic, historian and educator. He started his career at 16, setting type after school. In 2002, two weeks before he died, he was inducted into the Hall of Fame of the Art Director's Club and honored with the ADC's educator award. After his nearly 40 years at RPI and VCU, his classmates, students and colleagues remember him with great respect and warmth.

Colleague Rob Carter is a VCU professor of design and co-authored four books with Meggs. "I cannot say enough about his piercing intellect, his love of humanity and of human visual communication, and of his drive and commitment."

"He can't be replaced," says assistant professor Nancy Strube. "He was the spirit of the Department. He was our spirit."

Meggs' "integrity and compassion stand out," agrees Bill Gravitt '60BFA, president of Beatley Gravitt Communications in Richmond. Gravitt met Phil in the mid-'60s, and for



### **Philip Meggs '64BFA '71MFA (1942-2002)**

many years their studios were side by side—a fun and enlightening time." Gravitt notes that "Phil was a consummate communicator" in his teaching and his writing.

Communication Arts and Design hailed his comprehensive *A History of Graphic Design* (1983), with 500 pages and 1,200 illustrations, as "a fortress work." Gravitt points out that it is "the standard design text, in advertising and in academia." The book is in its third edition, in multiple translations, including Hebrew and Korean. Meggs wrote or co-wrote 14 books and hundreds of articles as contributing editor of *Print* and for other design magazines, as well as the definition of graphic design for *Webster's Dictionary*, 1992.

Meggs not only earned his BFA and MFA at RPI/VCU, he served on the Communication Arts and Design faculty for 34 years. He was chair from 1974 to 1987, doubling enrollment, writing curriculum, launching a graduate program, and transforming the Department into a powerhouse among the nation's design programs. His own design work was nationally recognized and featured in *Graphis*, *Communication Arts Design*, and *Print's Regional Design Annuals*.

"We always knew that he would be a genius," says Gravitt, "but I guess we needed New York and London to tell us—they did, and continue to."

Besides teaching at VCU, Meggs was a visiting faculty member at Syracuse University and the National College of Art and Design in Dublin. He served on the Citizens Stamp Advisory Committee, choosing and overseeing the art on

U.S. postage stamps. In 1996, Meggs received the University Award of Excellence, VCU's highest faculty recognition for teaching, research and service.

Meggs' students are competent, creative, loyal and grateful. **Will Flynn '81BFA** "learned a lot about the power of visual communications. He taught us to be good stewards of our natural resources, mindful of waste in the materials we design. Most importantly, I learned to be passionate about life. We will always remember him as a great teacher and a kind man."

Phil and Libby Meggs '65BFA met as freshmen art students at RPI. In one of their first classes, his drawing board was near the pencil sharpener, so she asked him how to sharpen a chisel point pencil. "You have to use a razor," he explained. "That's sounds difficult." He said, "Don't worry. I'll sharpen all your pencils." About three weeks later he asked if she could mend a shirt for him. She did ("really tiny stitches"), and then washed, starched and ironed it as well, and offered to do all his shirts. "We took it from there. We just kept on helping each other." They were married for 38 years.

"He made us feel special, encouraged us when we had no confidence, made us laugh when we were sad. He knew how to make life fun," wrote Libby and their children, **Elizabeth Meggs '99BFA** and Andrew Meggs. "Throughout his illness he never complained, never gave in to despair. We are so fortunate to have been part of his life and we want to hold tight to all we learned from him."

Meggs' sense of fun never deserted him. When the Art Director's Club honored him as an Art Educator, Rob Carter brought the award to him at MCV Hospitals. Meggs took the stainless steel letters, an A and a D for Art Director, and held them in his hands. He turned to Libby and said mildly, "These are nice enough to put out."

"That was the last time I talked to Phil," Carter says. But he adds that Meggs' "gentle southern accent, his wisdom, his fairness, his kindness, his humor, his wit, his feistiness, his mischievousness: all of these things that were Phil will remain and echo within us."

*Friends, family, and colleagues have established a scholarship in his memory. Checks should be made payable to Philip B. Meggs Memorial Scholarship Fund and sent to VCU Arts Development Office; P.O. Box 842519; Richmond, VA 23284-2519.*

## TRAILBLAZER

There are good reasons why Sarah Hill Cooke received a Virginia Nurses Association Pioneer Award, in May 2000. "She was a nursing trailblazer. Cooke became the only black nurse to serve as a director of nursing at VCU's Medical College of Virginia Hospitals. She was the first alumna to receive a VCU School of Nursing Alumni Star Award.

Her nursing career began at St. Philip Hospital in Richmond, a hospital for black patients and teaching hospital for black nurses during segregation, where she rose



## Sarah Hill Cooke '39NStP (1916-2002)

to assistant director of nursing services. When St. Philip closed in 1962 and was integrated with the Medical College of Virginia Hospitals, Cooke was the first black administrator there. She took a leave during the 1960s to earn her Master's in Nursing Education at New York City University. She retired from MCVH in 1979 as associate director of nursing services.

"She was very knowledgeable, but she wasn't stingy with her knowledge," says **Arlethia Rogers '60NStP**, who followed Sarah Cooke as president of the St. Philip Alumnae Association. As a teacher and a leader, "she could reprimand you and compliment you all in one smile. If I improved on something, that smile would say, 'see, you have the knowledge; you just need to think about it.' I truly miss her."

School of Nursing Dean Nancy Langston knew Cooke "as a great teacher and guide. She was a woman who stood firm in her principles and one never had to second-guess her opinion. Sarah was a vital force in healing the wounds that had historically divided St. Philip and MCV Hospitals."

Cooke chaired the steering committee of the St. Philip School of Nursing Endowment Fund, and for 13 years she was president of the St. Philip Hospital School of Nursing Alumnae Association. She died November 8, 2002, at 86 after a long illness.

One speaker at her funeral summed it up. "St. Philip has lost its heart."

(Nobel, from page 9)

Nguyen's lab partner Pavel Kiselev observes that Fenn's broad knowledge and experience give him "a better chance of being lucky." Beyond that, "science is often too detached from practical world, and John Fenn always thinks about the useful applications." Many of the 19 patents Fenn holds as sole or co-inventor, says Kiselev, "are not just collecting dust but are being used."

In December, Fenn joined other Laureates in Stockholm for a whirlwind week of press conferences, receptions, luncheons and formal introductions. He made a presentation about his work, titled, of course, "Electrospray Wings for Molecular Elephants." Fenn received the Nobel Prize for Chemistry from His Majesty the King of Sweden on December 10. In his acceptance speech at the Stockholm Concert Hall, Fenn

quoted a poem from Walt Whitman's *Leaves of Grass*:  
A noiseless patient spider,  
I mark'd where on a little  
    promontory it stood isolated,  
Mark'd how to explore the vacant  
    vast surrounding  
It launch'd forth filament, filament,  
    filament, out of itself,  
Ever unreeling them, ever tirelessly  
    speeding them.

And you O my Soul, where you  
    stand,  
Surrounded, detached, in  
    measureless oceans of space,  
Ceaselessly musing, venturing,  
    throwing, seeking the spheres  
    to connect them,  
Till the bridge you will need be  
    form'd, till the ductile anchor  
    hold,  
Till the gossamer thread you fling  
    catch somewhere, O my soul.

In these lines, Fenn said, Whitman has captured "the essence of [the] human spirit, which is also the spirit of science."

*The Nobel Prize carries a cash award of about \$1 million. Sharing the 2002 award with Fenn are Dr. Koichi Tanaka, 43, of Shimadzu Corp. in Kyoto, Japan; and Dr. Kurt Wüthrich, 64, of the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich and the Scripps Research Institute in La Jolla, CA.*

*The other 2002 Nobel winner from Virginia, Dr. Vernon Smith of George Mason University, who won for economics, was on VCU's campus in November, 2001 as the Thallheimer Family Scholar-in-Residence at the School of Business.*

*Joriel Foltz writes frequently for VCU's alumni magazines.*

(Italy, from page 11)

from early morning until late in the evening. Her bubbly laugh and helpfulness never failed—even though she had just said goodbye to a group before we arrived and would be welcoming another immediately after we left. Her English was excellent, and whenever her cell phone rang we enjoyed listening in on her lyrical Italian almost as much.

On our last excursion we arrived in Siena early on a cold Sunday morning. We moved easily through the quiet, narrow streets to Siena's beautiful cathedral, the most magnificent structure of the trip. The exterior was spectacular, the interior even more stunning. Every bit of wall space was filled with frescos, paintings or sculptures. Even the marble floors were laced with carvings of historical events.

On the way back to Marciella, the trip nearing an end, I thought about Italy.

How wonderful not to have signs and advertisements constantly in our faces. Businesses were nestled among trees; you had to look closely to know if you were looking at a business or a home. Walking through Marciella was a joy as flowerboxes brimming

with geraniums, petunias and begonias adorned almost every home. Laundry on clothes lines outside the windows bloomed as profusely as the flowers, and only added to the town's charm.

Unfortunately ill, one of us also sampled Italy's national health service, with Chiara by her side to translate. Italians receive free medical care supported by taxes. Our friend commented it was "like going to the deli and getting a number."

On their second trip with AHI, **John Bumgarner** '66MD and his wife Barbara "especially enjoyed Tuscany because the countryside was more relaxed." For them, "the highlight was the final evening, dinner at the Castle of Santa Maria Novella." From the castle, we took photos of our "home," Villa Tavolese, directly across the valley. At dinner we each received a "graduation certificate" and talked a bit about what we learned. Justine Staples put it succinctly. "Our guide was the best. I enjoyed my many new friends. I can't wait for my next trip."

To catch our 7:00 a.m. flight from Florence we had to leave Marciella at 4:45 a.m. I walked alone in the dark to the square to meet the bus. I sat on a park bench wondering if everyone else had forgotten to get up. I could never sit alone in the dark like this in a city at home. Here, everything but the wind was calm and serene. I'll remember the quiet, the solitude, the peace and brisk cool breeze of that final morning for a long time.

*Diane Stout-Brown is associate director of VCU Alumni Activities. We'll return to Italy for the next Alumni College in the Italian Lake District, May 26-June 3.*



DIANE STOUT-BROWN '66MD

*Today, Il Campo is quiet. But since the Middle Ages, twice every summer Siena's major square becomes a track for Al Palio, the traditional horse race.*

\*Member of the VCU Alumni Association

### 1950s

**Joe Myers '58BS/B** is a pharmacist for Eckerd Drug Corporation in Clayton, NC, where he lives. • **Eleanor Ruffy '58BFA** teaches at the Virginia Museum School and is one of Richmond's most accomplished and respected visual artists. She received a 2002 Theresa Pollak Prize for Excellence in the Arts. • **Milo Russell '55BFA**, professor emeritus of painting at VCU, received a 2002 Theresa Pollak Prize for Excellence in the Arts.

### 1960s

**Bedros Bandazian '61BS/B** is president of Bandazian & Co. in Richmond. • **G. Baxter Barger '67BS/B** of Waynesboro received the Company Representative of 2002 Award from the National Association of Professional Insurance Agents for outstanding professional experience, assistance to independent insurance agents through the PIA, and community service. • **Mary Boyd '62BFA** is a principal interior designer in Washington, DC. She lives in Arlington, VA. • **Chris Burnside '69BFA**, who has taught for 22 years in VCU's Dance Department, received a 2002 Theresa Pollak Prize for Excellence in the Arts. He has choreographed for the Richmond Ballet and other companies, and performed his dance monologues in Richmond and New

York City. As department chair, he was instrumental in rebuilding the Grace Street Theatre for VCU dancers and visiting companies. • **Frances (Kegley) Concannon '64BFA '67MFA** teaches sewing at Pine Camp Community Center. She lives in Richmond. • \***John Keith Jr '66BS/B** is director of human resources at J. Crew in Lynchburg, VA. He lives in Richmond. •

**Connee Merwin '69BS/B** is a paralegal specialist at FDIC in Washington, DC. She lives in Lake Ridge, VA. • \***John Orrock '67BS/B** is a senior systems consultant at First Health Services Corporation in Glen Allen, VA. • \***John Schwartz '69BS/B** is a real estate consultant at Dominion Telecom, Inc in Glen Allen, VA. • **George Temple Sr '66BS/B** works in the Resource Mortgage division at Resource Bank. He lives in Virginia Beach. • \***Sue Truman-Hufnall '64BFA** is the owner/artist of Stained Glass Creations in Landisville, NJ, where she lives. • **Marshall Vaughan '66BS '67MS/B** is a real estate investor in Richmond, where he lives. • \***Walter Wildman Jr '60BS/B** is vice president of finance for the Virginia League of Planned Parenthood in Richmond.

### 1970s

\***Charlie Beck '75BS/B** is president of Financial Staffing 2000 in Richmond, where he lives. • \***Mary Bellone '75BS/E** is a reading specialist at Oak Grove-Bellemeade Elementary School in Richmond, where she lives. • **Willie Bennett '75BS/E** teaches in Richmond Public Schools and lives in Richmond. • **Tracy Brewer '76BS/E** is an information professional at the Watauga County Public Library in Boone, NC. She lives in Blowing Rock, NC. • **Mary Buckle '79BS/B** is a self-employed consultant in Atlanta, where she lives. • **Rita Buckner '73BFA** is a film commissioner at Florida Keys & Key West TDC in Key West, where she lives. • **Mario Cavezza '71BS/B** is general manager at Portmedic Division of Hooper Holmes Corp. in Andover, NJ. • **Candi Chase '77BA/H&S** is retired from the NASA Public Affairs Office where she worked in the International Affairs Office, and had been a paralegal at NASA Headquarters. She lives in Reston, VA. • \***Allan Cohen '74BS/B** is assistant manager of DSW Shoe Warehouse in Glen Allen, VA, where he lives. • **Sandra Curry '71BS/B** is a career and technical education administrator for Waynesboro Public Schools in Waynesboro, VA, where she lives. • **Vernon Drinkwater '75BS/E** is a sales associate at Ray Christensen Realty and a teacher for Virginia Beach Public Schools. He lives in Virginia Beach. •

**Ronald Fink '75MS/B** is a managing partner at Strategic Marketing Solutions in Glen Allen, VA. He lives in Richmond. • \***Robert (Bob) H. Flatford III '76BS/B** retired from Bank of America in January of 2001. In February 2001, he became vice president of Commercial Loans at First Citizens Bank, the oldest and largest family owned/controlled bank in the U.S. • \***Leon Frazier '71BS/B** is vice president of Public Sector for Nextel Communications. He lives in Centreville, VA. • \***George Gibbs '75BS/B** is the chief financial officer at the Office of Health Benefits in Richmond, where he lives. • **Bruce Grossberg '77BS/H&S** is president of U.S. Vittles Inc. in Richmond, where he lives. • **Jon Grubbs '77MPA/H&S** is the director of Citizen Info & Assistance for the City of Bowling Green, KY, where he lives. • \***Lindsay Harrington '73BS/B** is a state representative in the Florida House of

### VCU Alumni Association Honors Scholars 2002-03



VCUAA Honors Scholarship Recipient, Sanjay Iyer

A former flight attendant, Canadian Mireille Truong is now a VCU senior majoring in French and pre-med. Mireille has been volunteering since she was 12, and recent service at the Fan Free Clinic reinforced her commitment to medicine. "I really enjoy helping people... it is a good use of time."

Sanjay Iyer, also pre-med, is studying psychology to be a more compassionate physician. "I am very grateful to the alumni for giving back," he says. "Giving back is one thing I plan to do." He wants to bring medical care to the poor in India and to fund a need-based scholarship for students underrepresented in higher education.

More than a dozen students have received the VCU Alumni Association Honors Scholarship, established in 1995. To contribute to the scholarship fund, please call (804) 828-2586.



Jay Weinberg; Mireille Truong, recipient of the Jay and Sondra Weinberg Undergraduate Scholarship in Honors and the Dean's Award for Excellence; Lois Trani

# The Power of A.R.T.

BY SELBY FRAME '81BFA

"I had all their encouragement, to go all the way," says painter **Timothy Lefens** '77BFA of his VCU mentors Richard Carlyon and Sal Federico. "They helped me connect to all my power."

Twenty years later, Lefens took that power beyond the two dimensions of his own painting into a fifth, after showing slides of his art at a school for students with cerebral palsy and other profound disabilities. "They were the most reduced beings you could ever meet," he says. "I realized that because they don't move and they don't talk; everything they have is held inside."

Lefens became determined to bring the expressive freedom of painting to people who can't move. The mechanics of this dream were challenging. If you can't use your hands to hold a brush, or tell someone else what to do, how can you put paint on a canvas?

"The first breakthrough was primitive, but powerful," says Lefens. "We helped artists in powered wheelchairs use the chair as an impression tool, drawing with the wheels of the chair on a canvas on the floor. You could say they were making their mark."

Lefens experimented with more sophisticated techniques. In 1995, he established a non-profit organization, Art Realization Technologies (A.R.T.). He developed a laser-based headband that allows handicapped artists to point to a large menu of colors, brushes, gels and materials. A trained assistant, or tracker, carries out the artist's choices on canvas—communicated by laser pointer, computer keyboard, or simply an eye blink for yes or no.

With a full range of expression, the artists took off. Fabulous abstractions exploded from the confines of stillness. Hundreds of Lefens' students, at five sites from New Jersey to Florida, have created paintings of fiery sophistication and profound subtlety. Their work has brought rave reviews and hefty prices at major exhibitions around the country. A.R.T. painter Eric Corbin comments, "The truth is in the paint."

In 1988 A.R.T. received the Community Health Leadership Award from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. The group has been featured by the *New York Times*, *People* and *Reader's Digest*, as well as CNN and *CBS Evening News*.

Lefens' book, *Flying Colors*, published last fall by Beacon Press, was hailed by critics as "unsparing and inspiring." The memoir weaves Lefens' life story with the lives and work of the artists he so fiercely respects. One strand is Lefens' own disability—growing blind spots from retinitis pigmentosa will eventually blot out his vision entirely. Like his student colleagues, Lefens relies on "the transcendent power of art and the surprises of the human spirit."

"A.R.T. is not about 'helping' artists to paint," Lefens insists. "It's about giving them a clear channel, staying out of their way, and watching them tap into their own power."

For more information and an online, on sale gallery of paintings, visit [www.artrealization.org](http://www.artrealization.org). Contributions are welcome and tax-deductible.

VCU theatre graduate Selby Frame is a freelance writer in Maine.



JOHN CRUM, NYC

Representatives and a commercial/residential realtor for ARVIDA Realty in Punta Gorda, FL, where he lives. • **Edward Hazelwood** '78BS/MC is editorial director of *Aviation Week* in Washington, DC. He lives in Arlington, VA. • \***Robert Holloway**

'73BS/B is a partner of Management Consulting Group Inc. in Midlothian, VA, where he lives. • \***Willie Horton Jr.** '77BFA is senior designer in the Aircraft Carrier Engineering division of Northrop Grumman Newport News. He lives in Newport News, VA. • \***Michael Hunter** '74BS/H&S is president and CEO of RCC Consultants, Inc. in Woodbridge, NJ. He lives in Neshanic Station, NJ. • **Aimee Huynh** '75BS/H&S is senior IVF technologist in the OB/GYN division of Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, where she lives. • **Irvin Johnson** '76BS/H&S is a social work supervisor in Child Protective Services in Portsmouth, VA. He lives in Chesapeake, VA. • **Vance Johnson** '70BS '72MS/B is a real estate appraiser at Quinlivan Appraisal in South Miami, FL. He lives in Miami. • \***John Kendig** '75BS/B is an associate broker at Long & Foster Realtors in Richmond, where he lives. • **Charles Lambert** '71BS/B is the assistant controller for Atlantic Coast Dining, Inc. in Richmond, where he lives. •

**Vicitacion Layus** '71BS/H&S is a student services professor in the Financial Aid & Scholarship division of San Jose State University in San Jose, CA. She lives in Morgan Hill, CA. • **Allen Little** '75BS/H&S is a community sales manager in the Cornerstone division of New Home Sales & Building in Monroe, NC. He lives in Waxhaw, NC. • \***Ed Livesay** '78BS/B is the owner of Greystarr Properties in Denver, where he lives. • **Pamela Martin** '76BFA is a multimedia producer for Fairfax County Public Schools in Annandale, VA. She lives in Purcellville, VA. • **Jim McNeal**

'77MS/H&S is the owner of The Dive Shop in Richmond and lives in Glen Allen, VA. •

**Joe Mitchell** '74BS/H&S is a field biologist/ecologist at the University of Richmond. He lives in Richmond. • **Ronald Mitchell**

'79BS/H&S is assistant vice president of the Risk Management division at Saxon Mortgage, Inc. in Glen Allen, VA. He lives in Richmond. • **James Mountjoy** '78BS/H&S

is a chemist in the Bureau of Engraving & Printing of the U.S. Department of Treasury in Washington, DC. He lives in Mason Neck, VA. • \***John Mowrer** '77MBA is vice president & controller of Kraft Foods in Northfield, IL. • **David Nye** '77MBA/B is a professor of management at Athens State College in Auburn, Alabama. • **Jeanna**

**Orphanidys** '78MSW is the owner of Rehabilitating Counseling Associates Inc. in St. Petersburg, FL, where she lives. • \***Sherrell Orrock** '66BSW '70MS/AH is an

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independent contractor at Rennie's Advertising Ideas, Inc. in Richmond, where she lives. • **\*Richard Painter '79BS/H&S** is a lieutenant colonel in the TRADCO Engineers division of the U.S. Army at Fort Monroe, VA. • **Dashton Parham '78BFA** is a design editor in the Graphics and Photography division of *USA Today* in McLean, VA. He lives in Woodbridge, VA. • **Van Peace '76BS/B** is product services manager for Phillip Morris International in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. • **\*E. Douglas Pratt '78MSW** is president of Policy-Practice Resources, Inc. in Atlanta, where he lives. • **\*Michael Pritchard '68BS '71BS/B** is a self-employed investors relations consultant in Hopewell, VA, where he lives. • **\*Mary Pully '76BFA** is a program & tech specialist for the National Science Foundation in Arlington, VA, where she lives. • **Stan Salasky '70BS/MC** is president of Jackson Express, Inc. in Dallas, where he lives. • **Geraldine Seay '77BS/E** is assistant professor in the School of Business at Florida A & M University in Tallahassee, where she lives. • **Robert Simon '76BS/B** is chair at D & R Ventures, Inc. in Richmond. He lives in Midlothian, VA. • **Patricia Smith '78BS/E** is a middle school teacher for Goochland County Public Schools, VA. She lives in Manakin-Sabot, VA. • **Pat Stockdon '75BFA** owns INdesign in Richmond, where she lives. She received first place in the 7th Annual Design Specialty Awards from the American Society of Interior Designers, Virginia Chapter for the design of the Lacy Residence in Midlothian, VA. • **\*Keith Strohecker '75BS/B** is vice president of Caps Group in Richmond. He lives in Moseley, VA. • **Pamela Tancredi '78BS/MC** is assistant division manager for Gulf Coast Division in Panama City Beach, FL, where she lives. • **Andrew Tavss '77BS/B** is president of MidSouth Building Supply Inc. in Springfield, VA. • **Wanda Temple '70BS '75MS/B** teaches in the Business Department at Colonial Heights High School, Colonial Heights, VA. She lives in Hopewell, VA. • **Janis Terpenny '79BS/H&S** is assistant professor of the Mechanical and Industrial Engineering division at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst, MA, where she lives. • **\*Joseph Terry Jr. '70BS/B '72MED** teaches at A.V. Norell Elementary School in Richmond, where he lives. • **\*Virginius Vaughan '70MS/B** is vice president of the Citibusiness Credit Center division of Citibank, N.A. in Long Island City, NY. He lives in Chatham, NJ. • **\*Larry Verbit '73BFA** is an attorney at Berkowitz, Black, & Zolke in Beverly Hills, CA, and lives in Santa Monica.

## 1980s

**Dilip Abayasekara '85PhD/H&S** is third vice president of Toastmasters International in San Antonio, TX. He lives in Camp Hill, PA. • **\*Steven R Bateson '86MBA** is president of the Virginia Association of School Business Officials (VASBO) for the current year. VASBO is an association of professionals in finance, accounting, pupil transportation, food service and facilities with a school division. VASBO takes care of "the business of K-12 education." Steven is assistant director School Internal Audit for Chesterfield County Public Schools. • **Steven Bergin '88BS/B** is manager of the CDCO division at VCU and lives in Richmond. • **Keith Boswell '83BS/B** is married to Renee Ridley Boswell and they have three children: Luke 5, Lydia 3, and Ezra, born on February 4, 2002. Keith is a Senior Manager at Virginia Economic Development Partnership. The family lives in Bon Air, VA. • **Kenneth Cahoon '84BFA** owns Valerio Maioli Servizi, a video production services company in Forli, Italy, where he lives. He is a video control engineer, slow motion operator, video editor and camera operator. • **Judith Cashwell-Ullah '87BS/B** is a senior computer consultant for Northrop Grumman in Rosslyn, VA. She lives in Dumfries, VA. • **Pamela Chaney '86BS/B** is president of CRM Consulting, Inc. in Laurel, MD, where she lives. • **\*Craig Chapman '82BS/B** is a regional sales manager for Net IQ in Portland, OR. He lives in Ashburn, VA. • **\*Margaret Connors '81BS/H&S** is managing director at Salomon Smith Barney in the Global Equities division in NYC. She lives in Port Washington, NY. • **Janet Cromley '81MS/H&S** is editor for the *Los Angeles Times*. She lives in Long Beach, CA. • **Deborah (Slusser) Doane '82BS/B** is a partner at Renaissance in Midlothian, VA. • **Tom Duke '82BFA** works for the Planning Partnership, Inc and recently received first place in Contract Healthcare at the 7th Annual Design Specialty Awards of the American Society of Interior Designers, Virginia Chapter for designing offices for Pediatric Associates of Richmond, Inc. • **Anthony Earles '85BS '87MS/H&S** married Joanne Cousin on September 21, 2002. He is tourism development manager for the Portsmouth Convention & Visitors Bureau in Portsmouth, VA, where they live. • **Stephanie Evans '89BS/E** is a paralegal for St. Paul Cos. in Richmond, where she lives. • **\*Barbara Froman '85BS/B** is a support professional for Hoffmeyer & Semmelman LLP in York, PA, where she lives. • **Steven Gray '84BS/B** is manager of transaction accounting and financial reporting for the Lockheed Martin Corporation. • **Frank Grizzard '87BA/H&S** is senior associate editor/associate professor at the University of Virginia. His book *George Washington: A Biographical Companion*, the first encyclo-

pedia written on George Washington, was published in 2002 by ABC-CLIO. Also in 2002, UVA Press published his book *The Papers of George Washington, Revolutionary War Series*, vol. 12. He lives in Waynesboro, VA. • **Arthur Heinz '86BS/B** owns Heinz Insurance Agency in Chesterfield, VA where he lives. • **Jeanette Hickle '89MS/B** is a manager at Philip Morris USA in Richmond, where she lives. • **Lisa Jackson '86BS/B** is senior programmer analyst for Anthem, Inc. in Richmond, where she lives. • **Deborah Jarman '81BFA** is a teacher for Spotsylvania County Schools in Fredericksburg, VA, where she lives. • **Bassam Kawwass '80MHA/AH** is president and CEO of 21st Century Care Systems in Virginia Beach. • **Colleen Kearney '85BS/MC** is project manager of University Relations at George Mason University in Fairfax, VA, where she lives. • **Robert Killian '81BFA '86MA/A** is a graphic designer for the Smithsonian American Art Museum in Washington, DC. He lives in Manassas, VA. • **Cindy Lester '82BS/H&S** teaches at Poquoson City High School, in Poquoson, VA, where she lives. • **\*Tonya Lovelace '86BS/B** is a contract specialist for the Department of Army in Leavenworth, KS, where she lives. • **Wanda McCarthy '83BS/H&S** is an adjunct faculty member at

## Consolidate Your Student Loans

The VCU Alumni Association is partnering with SunTrust Education Loans to bring alumni a special student loan consolidation program. SunTrust, a national leader in education financing, offers a variety of solutions to graduates with federal and private student loan debt. Among the products available through this new VCU Alumni Association program are federal consolidation loans, private consolidation loans and HEAL (Health Education Assistance Loans) refinance loans.

With a SunTrust federal consolidation loan, you can lock into one of the lowest rates in history. Consolidation also allows you to extend the repayment period on your loan, which may give you a monthly payment up to 50% lower than your current payment. In addition to the low, fixed rates available through the federal program, SunTrust offers some of the lowest interest rates available in the country, with special discounts for borrowers making payments by automatic deduction from a personal bank account and for making on-time payments. In fact, with all of these discounts, some borrowers may receive a rate as low as 2.25%.

To learn more about this special VCU Alumni Association program at SunTrust, call SunTrust Education Loans at 1-888-552-7951. Student loan specialists are available to discuss the loan options available to VCU graduates. Web link at [www.VCU-MCValumni.org](http://www.VCU-MCValumni.org) or visit [www.SunTrustEducation.com/VCU-MCValumni](http://www.SunTrustEducation.com/VCU-MCValumni) for more information.

*Please note that your individual interest rate is based on the loans you consolidate. By extending your repayment term, you may increase the interest you pay. However, you may pay your loan off at any time without penalty.*

# On the Green!

BY MCGREGOR MCCANCE '91BS/MC

Consistency is the key for John Rollins '97 these days.

The former VCU golf star credits a more even style of play with his recent climb in professional golfing, an ascent punctuated by his first PGA Tour win in September's Bell Canadian Open.

And despite having the kind of success that can slingshot careers and lifestyles, Rollins plans to keep things steady.

"I'm still the same kind of guy," he said during a recent interview. "I do the same things. I try to keep everything very relaxed and laid back and don't get too worked up about anything. That's who I am."

Rollins' impressive breakthrough sent his ranking and his spot on the tour's earnings ladder soaring. He finished the most recent season, ending in November, ranked 67th on the World Golf rankings. His \$1.9 million in tour winnings put Rollins at No. 25 among money leaders.

The strong year provides more than financial security. Rollins' rankings and earnings, combined with the Canadian Open crown, guarantee he can play in virtually any professional tournament in 2003. He's also exempt from having to qualify for three of the four Majors.

Confident he can compete with the top pros, Rollins plans to focus on Majors such as the U.S. Open in 2003. He also expects to build on the win in Canada and continue climbing the money list.

"I don't want to go down as a one-hit wonder."

During his four years as a VCU golfer, Rollins earned honorable mention All-America honors. He credits former coach Jack Bell with a coaching style that stressed match play during practice and an emphasis on playing different courses to present new challenges.

"I can go to a golf course and I just play the course. I can adjust," Rollins explains. "I think I'm so used to playing so many different golf courses that I don't worry about it. That's really what he taught when he was the coach."

Despite his solid VCU preparation, Rollins said it took some time to adjust mentally to competing at the top professional level. He quickly recognized how even a shred of self-doubt can infect performance.

"If you don't think you can win, you have no chance." So now, "I don't worry about what the cut is going to be. All I'm thinking about is, 'Let's try to make a move and let's try to win.'"

Weekend golfers might trim a few strokes off their games by following Rollins' theme of consistency. Asked how recreational golfers can improve, Rollins says forget about monster drives and trick shots you may see on TV.

"If the average weekend golfer just went out and tried to make it simple, just figured out a way to put the ball in the fairway, knock the ball on the green and go, it would be a lot more enjoyable and probably save some shots on their game," he said.

Simple? Sure. For pros like Rollins, it's just par for the course.

*McGregor McCance covers business technology issues for the Richmond Times-Dispatch.*

**Hook, VA.** • **Claudia Lefas '97BA/H&S** is a financial analyst in Investment Banking at Tokyo Mitsubishi in NYC. She lives in Jersey City, NJ. • \***Barbara Leppitsch '95BA/H&S '95BS/B** is a senior systems administrator for IBM in Boulder, CO. She lives in Denver. • **David Lipscomb, Jr. '97BS/B** is vice president of technology in Information Systems at Industrial Supply Corporation in Richmond. He lives in King William, VA. • \***Yuqian Mao '99MBA** is senior trainer/developer in the Operations at Phillip Morris USA in Richmond, VA. She lives in Midlothian, VA. • **Albert Marschall '95BFA** is a graphic designer/illustrator at

Southern Graphic Systems in Richmond, where he lives. • **Jeffrey Meisner '92BFA** is fax service support representative at Hello Inc in Richmond, where he lives. He is also a member of improv comedy troupe, TAKE 5. • **Eduardo Minaya '99BFA** is senior graphic specialist at KPMG in McLean, VA. He lives in Springfield, VA. • \***Keith Morse '90BS/H&S** is a police officer in the Disorder Control Unit for New York PD. • **Gretchen Newman '93 BS/MC** is the director of Art & Printing in College Relations for Mary Baldwin College in Staunton, VA. She lives in Verona, VA. • **Kristen Parker '91BFA** is a sculptor-illustra-



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tor in Richmond, where she lives. She designed three fish for the Go Fish! Project in Richmond. Her sculptures were "Fish for Thought", displayed at the Canal Walk entrance; "Catfishin" at the Canal Turning Basin; and "Mermaid Fish" at the James Center. • **Eugene Pembleton '96MSW** is a mental health clinician at Memorial Child Guidance Clinic in Richmond, where he lives. • **Samuel Perdue '87BS '90MS/H&S** is a microbiologist at the National Institutes of Health. He lives in Falls Church, VA. •

\***Timothy Petrie '88BA '92MURP/H&S** is the compliance program leader at the Department of Environmental Quality in Roanoke, VA. He lives in Buena Vista, VA. • **Lorna Pinckney '98BS/MC**, head of Upside Promotions and Design, created The Soul Kitchen open-mic night on the third Saturday every month at the Captain's Grill, John Marshall Hotel, in Richmond. She created Tuesday Verses open-mic night, Tuesdays at Tropical Soul in Richmond. •

**Diana Powell '85BS/B '94MSW** is a renal social worker at Davita Dialysis in Emporia, VA. She lives in Petersburg, VA. • **Amy Redman '99BFA** is an interior designer at Bound Hugo Farley Architects. She received a 2002 Contract Historic

Preservation award for design of Richmond YWCA, and the Contract Healthcare award for design of medical offices for Richmond Dermatology Specialists, PC at the 7th Annual Design Specialty Awards of American Society of Interior Designers, Virginia Chapter. • **Miguel Reyes '98BS/B**

is an associate at Bank Boston NA in Buenos Aires, Argentina, where he lives. •

• **\*Timothy Roberts '88BFA '97MFA/A** is director of publications and marketing in the Communications at the University of Richmond. He lives in Midlothian, VA. •

• **\*Jeannine Rosado '98BA/H&S** is a bilingual social insurance specialist for the Social Security Administration in Fredericksburg, VA, where she lives. • **Thomas Sheets '95BS/B** has recently been promoted to vice president of Wachovia Securities, Inc. He is now the accounting manager for the Private Client Group of Wachovia Securities. • **Erica Sherman '98BS/B** is payroll manager of Planet Gov, Inc. in Chantilly, VA. She lives in Alexandria, VA. • **Sean Smith '93MT/E** is a teacher at Hardy Middle School in Washington, DC, where he lives. • **Anne Soffee's '95MFA/H&S** first book, *Snake Hips: Belly Dancing and How I Found True Love*, was published by Chicago Review Press in 2002. She taught at Charter Westbrook, and worked at the Genesis Treatment Agency in Richmond, where she

lives with her husband (and true love), Tad. •

• **Kristina Spencer '94BS/E** is a cruise specialist for The Cruise Web in Washington, DC. She lives in Arlington, VA. • **Colin**

**Stolle '92BA/H&S** is assistant commonwealth's attorney for the state of VA. He lives in Virginia Beach. • **David Stone '95BS/B** is senior staff accountant at Sneed & Williams, PLLC. He lives in Danville, VA. •

• **Ward Teft '94BA/H&S** owns Chop Suey Books in Richmond, where he lives. • **Jerome Thompson '97BS/B** works in Corporate Customer Service at Overnight Transportation in Richmond. He lives in Henrico County, VA. • **\*Lionel Walsh '92MFA/A** is director of the School of Dramatic Art at the University of Windsor in Windsor, Ontario, where he lives. • **Garrick Wang '96C/B** is a senior associate at KPMG LLP in Washington, DC. He lives in Vienna, VA. • **Stacey Warren '90BFA '92MT/E** teaches in Chesterfield County Public Schools. She lives in Midlothian, VA. •

**Amanda West '97MURP/H&S** is a criminal justice program analyst in the crime pre-

vention division of VA Department of Criminal Justice in Richmond. • **\*David Williams '96BS/B** is an account administrator at Wachovia Securities, Inc. in Washington, DC, where he lives. • **\*Jason Winebarger '92BFA** is a freelance artist in Richmond, where he lives.

## 2000s

**Dawn Adams '00BA/H&S** is project management associate of the CDS division of Quintiles, Inc. in Falls Church, VA. She lives in Alexandria, VA. • **\*Nils Alomar '02MBA** is a technical service engineer for Tredgar Film Productions in Richmond, where he lives. • **Anthony Bailey '02BS/En** is store director at The Market, Tobacco Row in Richmond. He lives in Sandston, VA. •

• **\*Claudette Barnes '01MAEd** teaches art at Arrowhead Elementary School in Virginia Beach, where she lives with her husband Tom and their four children Hazel, Katie, Guy and Gus. She recently completed her master's degree at VCU at 58. • **Samuel Bennett '00BS/B** is a management analyst

## In Memoriam

### Creating a Structure

Dr. Herbert Burgart, first dean of VCU's School of the Arts, died on November 9, 2002 at the age of 70, at home in Brodnax, Virginia.

Burgart arrived at Richmond Professional Institute in 1966, and became the first dean of the School of the Arts when RPI merged with MCV to create VCU in 1968. During Burgart's decade of leadership, the program expanded its departments from six to 11, added more than 100 faculty members, and gained accreditation from the National Association of Schools of Art. Music and theatre programs were added to the school, and individual Departments in Sculpture and Painting/Printmaking were established from the former Fine Arts Department. Enrollment quadrupled from 500 to nearly 2,000.

Art program founder Theresa Pollak wrote in 1969 that before Burgart arrived, the school had fragmented among its individual departments. He established, she said, the "present structure and unity that exists today."

Robert Hester was associate dean under Burgart and watched him create "a cohesive school where growth in quality was always commensurate with growth in quantity. Working with him was one of the exceptional pleasures of my life," Hester says. "He became my mentor and close personal friend until the day he died."

"He was a dynamic dean and inventive in his solutions," Richard Kevorkian, VCU professor emeritus and former chair

of painting and printmaking told the *Richmond Times-Dispatch*. "Herb trusted the people he had and gave them the space to create and teach."

Burgart's career continued with jobs as president of Moore College of Art and later of the Ringling School of Art and Design in Sarasota, Florida, where he retired in 1985. He had been president of the Southeastern College Art Conference, a board member of the National Council of Art Administrators, and secretary of the National Association of Schools of Art.

### "Aging with Dignity"

Before she came to the United States in 1992, **Olukemi "Kemi" Adamolekun '00MSW** practiced as a nurse and midwife in England and Nigeria, received her PhD in Guidance and Counseling, and taught for a decade at the University of Ife in Nigeria.

After coming to this country, Adamolekun focused her energies on caring for the sick and the elderly. She created Kaleyewa House, a not-for-profit organization to provide home- and community-based care for the elderly under the motto "Aging with dignity."

Adamolekun was working to establish Kaleyewa House in two Nigerian communities and helping to plan the first-ever Global Embrace, a World Health Organization-sponsored walk for the elderly, when she was killed in an accident at the age of 55.

*A memorial fund continues the work of Kaleyewa House. Checks noted Kaleyewa Fund can be made payable to Falls Church Episcopal Church; 115 East Fairfax Street; Falls Church, VA 22040.*

### Economics, U.S.A.

Dr. R. Pierce Lumpkin Jr., the first chair of the Economics Department at Richmond Professional Institute (now VCU), died November 6, 2002, at 89, in Richmond. Former student **Robert T.C. Cone '68BS/B**, principal of Managed Care Innovations in Richmond, says Lumpkin was "one of the most competent professors I encountered. He was a very impressive person who commanded the attention and respect of numerous people in Richmond."

During WW II, Lumpkin served in the U.S. Army Signal Corps. Before the war, he had been a music major at RPI, a violinist. Then a temporary job at Planter's Bank and Trust led him to economics. He earned a Master's and a Ph.D. in economics at Harvard University.

Later, he worked at the Federal Reserve Bank, in Boston and in Richmond. Lumpkin taught economics and chaired the department at RPI from 1961-68 until he joined the Bank of Virginia where he spent ten years, retiring as senior vice president and CFO. He wrote a booklet, *Readings on Money*, for the Richmond's Federal Reserve Bank; he wrote the weekly *Money Review* for the Bank of Virginia, and a textbook, *Economics, U.S.A.*

Lumpkin brought Dr. Dennis O'Toole '68MS/B to the faculty. "He was an outstanding teacher and person, one of the best teachers I ever had. I have used a number of his teaching techniques," says O'Toole.

For Ed Flippen '65BS/B, partner at McGuireWoods LLP and a former VCU Rector, Lumpkin was "one of the best teachers and finest people I've ever known. As a teacher, he always fostered learning—he was never critical of students. I can't imagine that there's anyone who didn't like him."

# What's New?

Shafer Court Connections welcomes updates on marriages, family additions, job changes, relocations, promotions—whatever is newsworthy. Help us keep track of you by completing and returning this form. Recent newspaper clippings and photographs are also appreciated. Please mail to **VCU Alumni Activities, 924 West Franklin Street, P. O. Box 843044, Richmond, Virginia 23284-3044.**

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NEWS

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in Public Services at KPMG Consulting in McLean, VA. He lives in Richmond. •

\***Matthew Bowles '01BS/E** is assistant site director for the Shady Grove YMCA in Glen Allen, VA. He lives in Richmond. • **Jessica Brown '01BS/MC** works in Client Relations at Rehoboth.com, Inc. in Lewes, DE. She lives in Rehoboth Beach, DE. • **Fanita Burnett '02BIS/H&S** is assistant vice president of Management Recruitment at SunTrust Bank in Richmond. • **Erin Burns '01BS/B** is an associate at FINPRO in Richmond, where she lives. • **Katisha Burton '01BS/H&S** is a retention specialist in the DSL division for Verizon Communications. She lives in Virginia Beach. • \***Aileen Callahan '95BFA '00MSW** is a clinical case manager at the Colorado Coalition for the Homeless in Denver, where she lives. • **Michael Cammarasana '02BS/B** is a technical analyst at SunTrust in Richmond where he lives. • **Tenisha Carter '00BS/H&S** is a probation officer in Court Services for Fairfax County in Fairfax, VA. She lives in Washington, DC. • \***Pamela Coleman '02BS/B** is an account manager/sales rep for DocuSolutions in Florida. She lives in West Palm Beach. • \***Christopher Corrada '01MBA** is director of New Business Development for East West Partners of Virginia, Inc. He lives in Richmond. •

**William Fennell '00BS/H&S** published *The Winds of Destiny* in March 2002 under his pen name, Willie Tee. His book has appeared on television, on radio and in newspapers nationwide. For a review, see [www.authorsden.com](http://www.authorsden.com); interview at [www.blackmeninamerica.com](http://www.blackmeninamerica.com). • **Jenny Hansen '00BS/E** is event coordinator/ market manager in Neighborhood and Leisure Services for the City of Norfolk, VA. She lives in Virginia Beach. • **Donna (Smalley) Harwood '02BFA/A** married Ashton Harwood on September 21, 2002. They live in Mechanicsville, VA. • **Michael Jones '97BS '01C/H&S** is assistant chief of police in investigations for the Capitol Police of Virginia. He lives in Midlothian, VA. • **Shari Khalili '01BS/E** is an assistant consultant in the Business Consulting division of BellSouth Corporation in Charlotte, NC, where she lives. • **Danica King '00BS/B** is a new accounts specialist for First Union Securities in Richmond. She lives in Surry County, VA. • \***Caroline Kirkpatrick '95MT/E '01PhD/E** is a distance learning specialist in the Education Department of the Supreme Court of VA in Richmond, where she lives. • **Sandra Luckett '01BFA** is an artist whose work has been exhibited in the Millennium Arts Center at the Corcoran Gallery in Washington, DC, and in NYC and at Richmond's 1708 Gallery. She received a 2002 Theresa Pollak Prize for Excellence in Art. • **Vanessa Marks '00BS/H&S** is a canine enforcement officer with U.S.

**Important Note:** If this magazine is addressed to an alumnus who no longer lives at the address provided on the address label, please advise us so that we can correct our records. If you know the person's correct address, we would appreciate that information. Also, if a husband and wife are receiving more than one copy of the magazine, we would like to know so that we can avoid duplicate mailings. Please provide the names of both spouses and the wife's name at graduation.

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Customs Service in Laredo, TX, where she lives. • **Peter Mayer '01MBA** is global vice president of Procurement & Management Materials of Praxair, Inc. in Connecticut. • **Michelle McCabe '96BA '01C/H&S** is director of Gubernational Appointments and Information Systems in the Office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth in Richmond. She lives in Bowling Green, VA. • **Jack McCarthy '00BS/MC** is public education coordinator of West Virginia for LifeNet Memorial Fund in Roanoke, VA, where he lives. • **Courtney Merewether '01BS/B** is a database administrator in the Performers Fibers division of Honeywell International, Inc. in Colonial Heights, VA. She lives in Richmond. • **Monica Nebe '00MSW** is an adoption social worker for United Methodist Family Services in Richmond, where she lives. • **Melissa Ouelette '01BS/H&S** is a counseling intern at VCU in Richmond. She lives in Colonial Heights, VA. • **Jon Parker '01BS/B** is a rate analyst for Estes Express Lines in Richmond, where he lives. • **Derrick Perkins '02MURP/H&S** is a credit product specialist II at Bank of America in McLean, VA. He lives in Arlington, VA. • **Ted Price '02MSW** is the team leader of the Group Home division of Elk Hill Inc. in Richmond. He lives in Manakin-sabot, VA. • **Brian Rountree '02MBA** is vice president of the Corporate Banking Department of SouthTrust Bank in Richmond. He lives in Mechanicsville, VA. • **James Shepherd '01C/B** is managing director for Financial Managers & Consultants, LLC in Richmond.

He lives in Midlothian, VA. • **Mary Steelman '01MSW** is a clinical case manager for Braley & Thompson in Richmond, where she lives. • **Douglas Taylor '01BS/B** is a research analyst at Costar Group in Bethesda, MD. He lives in Silver Spring, MD. • **Stephen Voss '01MBA** is an accountant at Maersk Sealand. He lives in Charlotte, NC. • **Beverly Walker '01MEd/E** is a trainer instructor in the Human Resources at VCU. She lives in Richmond. • **Eric Welp '00BS/MC** is an account manager for the Virginia Society of the American Institute of Architects in Richmond. • **Ellen Woodcock '01BS/B** is an assistant manager for Limited Too Retail in Richmond, where she lives. • **Elizabeth Yevich '95BA '00MPA/H&S** is a planner for the Texas Rehabilitation Commission in Austin, where she lives.

#### Friends of VCU

**George Nan**, a retired chairman emeritus of the VCU Department of Photography and Film, received a 2002 Theresa Pollak Prize for Excellence in the Arts. • **Russell Wilson** is an adjunct professor at VCU and the University of Richmond. He is the pianist for the Richmond Symphony and plays with the Smithsonian Jazz orchestra in Washington, DC. He received a 2002 Theresa Pollak Prize for Excellence in the Arts.

#### Obituaries

##### 1930s

**Edith Behrens '37BS/H&S** on August 11, 2002. An accomplished gardener, she was a nationally accredited Flower Show Judge, a Life member of the Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs, and past president of the Sleepy Hollow Garden Club.

##### 1940s

\***Virginia (Delp) Ogg '43/E** on June 16, 2002, at 81. She taught at Henrico County Schools for 20 years and was a dance instructor at the Elinor Fry School of Dance. She was a member of the VCU Alumni Association Golden Circle, a 50 year Alumni Club. • **Shirley Sirott '44BS/B** on September 26, 2002, at 80. • **Albert Stoutamire '47BS/A** on September 15, 2002, at 81. He was a professional performer, and taught at public schools in Richmond, LaGrange College in LaGrange, GA, and McNeese State University of Lake Charles, LA. He served in the U.S. Army during WWII. He was a member of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia, NACWAPI and lifetime member of MENC. • **Theodore Turner '43BFA** on September 26, 2002.

##### 1950s

**Jerome (McLane) Balch '54** on October 4, 2002. • **Joel Barnard Jr '59BS/E** on September 13, 2002, at 69. He served in the U.S. Air Force. • **Hazel Hartley '51BS/E** on July 29, 2002.

## 1960s

**John Mootz '62BS/H&S** on December 8, 2002. He was a case worker at Beaumont School for Boys, deputy superintendent at the Richmond Juvenile Detention Home for 16 years, and superintendent of Henrico County Juvenile Detention Home for 18 years. • **Terry Phelps '64BS/B** on December 7, 2002, at 61. He was chair, president and CEO of Petroleum Marketers, Inc. in Roanoke, VA. He was president of APB Whiting Oil Company. He was past chair of the Virginia Petroleum Jobbers and Convenience Store Marketers, and past president and director of Virginia Oilmen's Association. He served on many community boards: Prevent Blindness Virginia, Arts Foundation of the Blue Ridge, the Blue Ridge Chapter of the MS Society. He received the Virginia Oil Man of the Year award, the Lifetime Achievement Award from Shell Oil Co, and was a member of the Shell V.P. Circle of Success for 13 years. • **Margaret Rose '69MEd** on March 15, 2001 of cancer. Since 1992 she had been involved in missionary work and assisted her husband Roland in a Theological Education by Extension Ministry in the State of Chiapas in Southern Mexico. • \***William Spence Jr '69MS/B** on April 25, 2000.

## 1970s

**Lester Brown Jr '75BS/H&S** on December 1, 2002. • **Martha (Harrison) Brown '71AS/B '77BS/E** on October 5, 2002. • **Estelle (Settle) Cobb '74BS/E** on October 2, 2002, at 88. She taught for 37 years, mainly in the Goochland County Schools. She was a founding member of the Goochland Woman's Club and a founder of an activity center for Goochland County's older retarded citizens. • **John Donahoe '76BS/B**. • \***Charles Harris '70MS/E** on July 8, 2002, at 68 of a heart attack. He taught Distributive education at Northhampton, Eastville, and George Wythe High Schools. He was also assistant professor of D.E. for A.B.A.C. in Tifton, GA. He retired as president and insurance agent of Harris Insurance Agency in Harlan, KY. • **Rebecca (Blackman) Hinant '76BFA** on

August 17, 2002, at 48. She had retired from Virginia's Department of General Services.

• **Samuel Ranson II '52BS/H&S '77MEd** on August 24, 2002, 76. He served in the U.S. Army during WWII. He taught chemistry at Highland Springs High School, where he also chaired the Science department. • **Adrienne (Holmes) Rozzell '71BS/E '75MEd** on November 13, 2002. She taught at Yorkshire Elementary School and was the founder and president of Orphans United in Christ (OUC) Inc. • **Cheryl (Patteson) Smith '70BS/MC** on August 29, 2002, at 54. She was a journalist and writer who most recently worked at St. Mary's Medical Center in West Palm Beach, FL. She freelanced for the *Sun-Sentinel* in Fort Lauderdale and was Director of Communications for the South Florida Science Museum in West Palm Beach. She was training to become a paralegal and volunteered at local AIDS programs.

## 1980s

**Horace Boone '81BS/B** on August 15, 2002, at 79. He served with the 8th Army Air Force during WWII and was the recipient of the Air Medal and the Distinguished Flying Cross. He was owner and operator of Boone's Variety Store in Petersburg, VA. • **Christopher Clary '85BS/B** on December 6, 2002, at 41, of cancer. He was the president's office manager at the Santa Fe Institute and taught business classes at Los Alamos Community College. He was confidential assistant to the White House, U.S. Congress Office of Technology Assessment, and Los Alamos National Labs. • **Malcombe Foley '80BS/B** on November 18, 2002, at 78. He was in the Army Air Corps in WWII and retired from Sutton-Clark after 30 years. • **Mary Hopkins '80BS/E** on December 9, 2002, at 45. • **Stuart Shipley '81BA/H&S** on October 7, 2002, at 52. He was a U.S. Air Force Veteran.

## 1990s

**Christina Burgess '95BA/H&S** on June 9, 2001 of diabetes. She worked for Wells Fargo and volunteered for the Lion's Club.

She also worked at the National Bank of Alaska. • **Kimberly Neff '90BGS/H&S '95MSW** on June 13, 2001, at 40. She worked for the South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department. She was a licensed social worker in Kansas and South Carolina. She was an officer in the U.S. Army Reserves and National Guard. • **Walter Robinson '90MPA/H&S** on November 30, 2002. • **Robert Thome '98BS/B** on August 23, 2002 of a brain tumor. He worked for Capital One and participated in Habitat for Humanity. • **Virginia Bowers MSW** on September 30, 2002. She was a social worker at Family and Children's Service in Richmond.

## 2000s

**Olukemi "Kemi" Adamolekun '00MSW**, in an accident at the age of 55, May 4, 2002. She had practiced as a nurse and midwife in England and Nigeria and taught for a decade at the University of Ife in Nigeria. After she came to the U.S. in 1992, she created Kaleyewa House to provide home- and community-based care for the elderly under the motto "Aging with dignity." She was working to establish Kaleyewa House in two Nigerian communities and helping to plan the first-ever Global Embrace, a World Health Organization-sponsored walk for the elderly, when she died.

### Friends of VCU

**Clinton Ferguson** on December 25, 2002, at 86. He was an associate professor in the School of the Arts and a faculty adviser for foreign students. He served in the Army Air Corps in WWII. • **Evelyn (Einstein) Gunst** on September 26, 2002, at 92. • **Janet (Patton) Lewis** on August 29, 2002, at 82. She established the Flagler Home at St. Joseph's Villa. She was a board member at the Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden, Theatre IV and the Flagler Foundation. She was Chairman of Historic Garden Week of the Garden Club of Virginia and the 1992 Richmond Christmas Mother. • **Joseph Masil** on October 17, 2002, 46. • **Julia Pastore** on December 2, 2002.

### Key To Abbreviations

Alumni are identified by year degree/school

#### Schools

**A** Arts

**AH** Allied Health Professions  
(CLS) Clinical Laboratory Sciences  
(RC) Rehabilitation Counseling

**B** Business

**CPP** Center for Public Policy

**D** Dentistry

**E** Education

**En** Engineering

**H&S** Humanities and Sciences

**M-BH** Medicine-Basic Health Sciences

**MC** Mass Communications

**N** Nursing

**P** Pharmacy

**SW** Social Work

#### Degrees

**AS** Associate's Degree

**C** Certificate

**BGS** Bachelor of General Studies

**BIS** Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies

**BFA, MFA** Bachelor, Master of Fine Art

**BIS, MIS** Bachelor, Master of Interdisciplinary Studies

**BSW, MSW** Bachelor, Master of Social Work

**BM, MM, MME** Bachelor, Master of Music,

Master of Music Education

**M, DPA** Master, Doctor of Public Administration

**MAE** Master of Art Education

**MBA** Master of Business Administration

**MD** Doctor of Medicine

**MEd** Master of Education

**MIS** Master of Interdisciplinary Studies

**MPA, DPA** Master, Doctor of Public Administration

**MT** Five-year Teacher Education program includes a BA or BS/H&S and a Master of Teaching.

**MURP** Master of Urban and Regional Planning

**PhD** Doctor of Philosophy

\*Member of the VCU Alumni Association

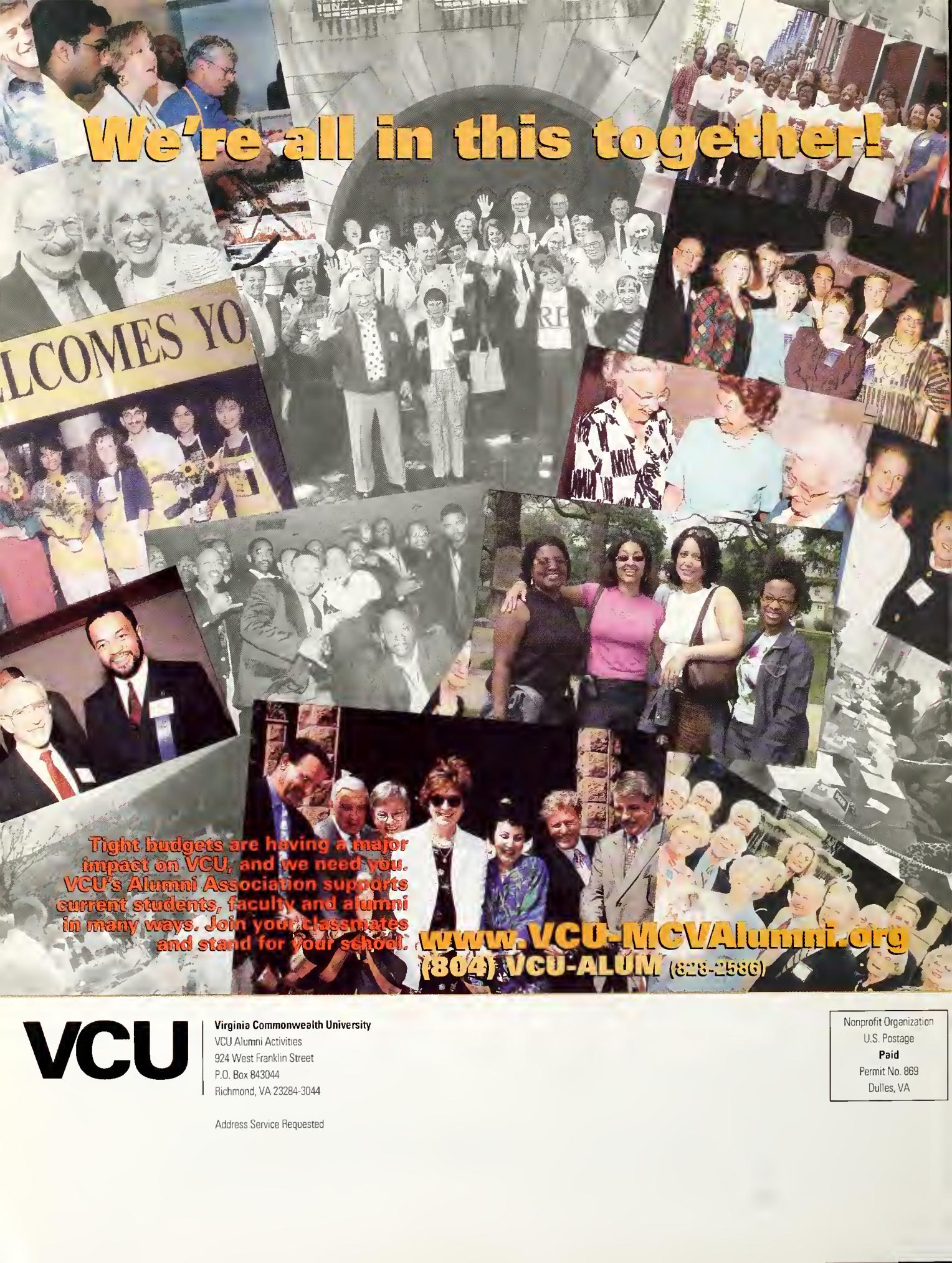
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